

Jamestown Pioneers from Poland



Published by
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of Poles' Landing in Jamestown

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Polish American Congress


JAMESTOWN PIONEERS FROM POLAND



PUBLISHED BY
THE POLISH AMERICAN CONGRESS
IN COMMEMORATION OF
THE 350TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARRIVAL OF
THE FIRST POLES IN AMERICA

JAMESTOWN, VIRGINIA

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28th, 1958



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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

CHARLES ROZMAREK
PRESIDENT POLISH AMERICAN CONGRESS, INC.,
1514-20 WEST DIVISION ST - CHICAGO

IT IS A PLEASURE TO SEND GREETINGS TO
THE MEMBERS OF THE POLISH AMERICAN CONGRESS
JOINED IN THE CELEBRATION OF THE 350th ANNIVER-
SARY OF THE ARRIVAL OF THE FIRST POLES TO THE
SHORES OF OUR CONTINENT.

SINCE THE EARLIEST DAYS, AMERICANS OF
POLISH ORIGIN HAVE CONTRIBUTED MUCH OF THEIR
RICH CULTURAL, HISTORICAL, AND SPIRITUAL HERI-
TAGE TO THIS LAND. IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND
CONTINUING PROMISE OF OUR COUNTRY, POLISH -
AMERICAN CITIZENS PLAY A VITAL ROLE. BEST
WISHES FOR A FINE CELEBRATION.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

PREFACE

The Jamestown Chapter in the annals of the United States met with a strange and truly singular fate.

In the conglomeration of events which led to the War Between the States and its aftermath, Jamestown became the subject matter of an intense and partisan controversy.

As a natural result and consequence of this fateful conflict, the point of view of the North prevailed in textbooks, in the interpretation of historical events, and even extended to historical research.

Thus Jamestown, geographically situated in the territory of the South, has been relegated for whole decades within the category of minor events in the history of our land. Even the life and achievements of fabulous Captain John Smith were subjects of disparagement.

The fact, that the Jamestown epic antedates the Pilgrim saga often has been minimized. Many Americans were not aware of the fact that Jamestown and its outlying plantations had already their own House of Burgesses, and the Polish Jamestowners had won their strike for enfranchisement before the Mayflower reached the American shores in 1620. This fact, however, does not detract from the Pilgrims' glory of achievements. In the majestic panorama of our land, Jamestown and Plymouth Rock can proudly share historic limelight as the repositories of American heritage.

At the turn of the present century, a renaissance in historical objectivity began and Jamestown regained its rightful place in the annals of Americana, as "the cradle of the Republic," and the Jamestowners—as the "beginners of a nation." The 300th anniversary of the founding of the colony was commemorated in 1907 with the impressive Jamestown obelisk honoring these pioneers.

* * *

Due to these circumstances, the Polish Jamestowners who linked their destiny with those of the first settlers of Virginia, fared no better than their co-pioneers in recorded recognition.

This is the first national observance in which Americans of Polish origin or descent are honoring the memory of their Jamestown ancestors and predecessors.

That the Poles were among the pioneers of Virginia and shared the fortunes and misfortunes of the first white settlers in this part of our land, was a logical sequence of the Anglo-Polish economic and cultural ties developed throughout preceding centuries in Europe.

* * *

Poland, at that time, had reached the zenith of the "Golden Epoch" of her history. Kings Zygmunt III and Wladyslaw IV were laying the groundwork of "the great design," which, had it been realized, would have created a United States of Central and Eastern Europe. The thesis of Andrzej Frycz Modrzewski, far ahead of his times, "O Naprawie Rzeczypospolitej," constituted the basis of contemporary intellectual discussions. One of the foremost European statesmen, Jan Zamoyski, who died in 1605, left his nation, Poland, a noble legacy known to historians as the "Experiment in the Royal Republic." Sobieski's Vienna victory, which was to arrest the advance of Islam into Europe forever, was yet to come.

* * *

The Poles came to Jamestown not as adventurers or mercenaries, but as desperately needed by the Colony craftsmen and experienced soldiers, recruited in Europe by the Virginia Company, at the insistence of Captain John Smith.

We have no accurate historical data as to how many Poles there were originally in Jamestown. It is certain that a group of them came to Virginia on the second supply ship, Mary and Margaret, which docked at Jamestown in October, 1608.

Scattered records, documents and accounts written by original Jamestowners indicate that the number of the pioneers from Poland was of an extent to merit mention and their achievements and contributions to the welfare and growth of the Colony of a character to command deserved respect.

Much research work is yet to be performed in order to fully uncover and ascertain facts hitherto hidden in musty archives, ship manifests and other documents.

* * *

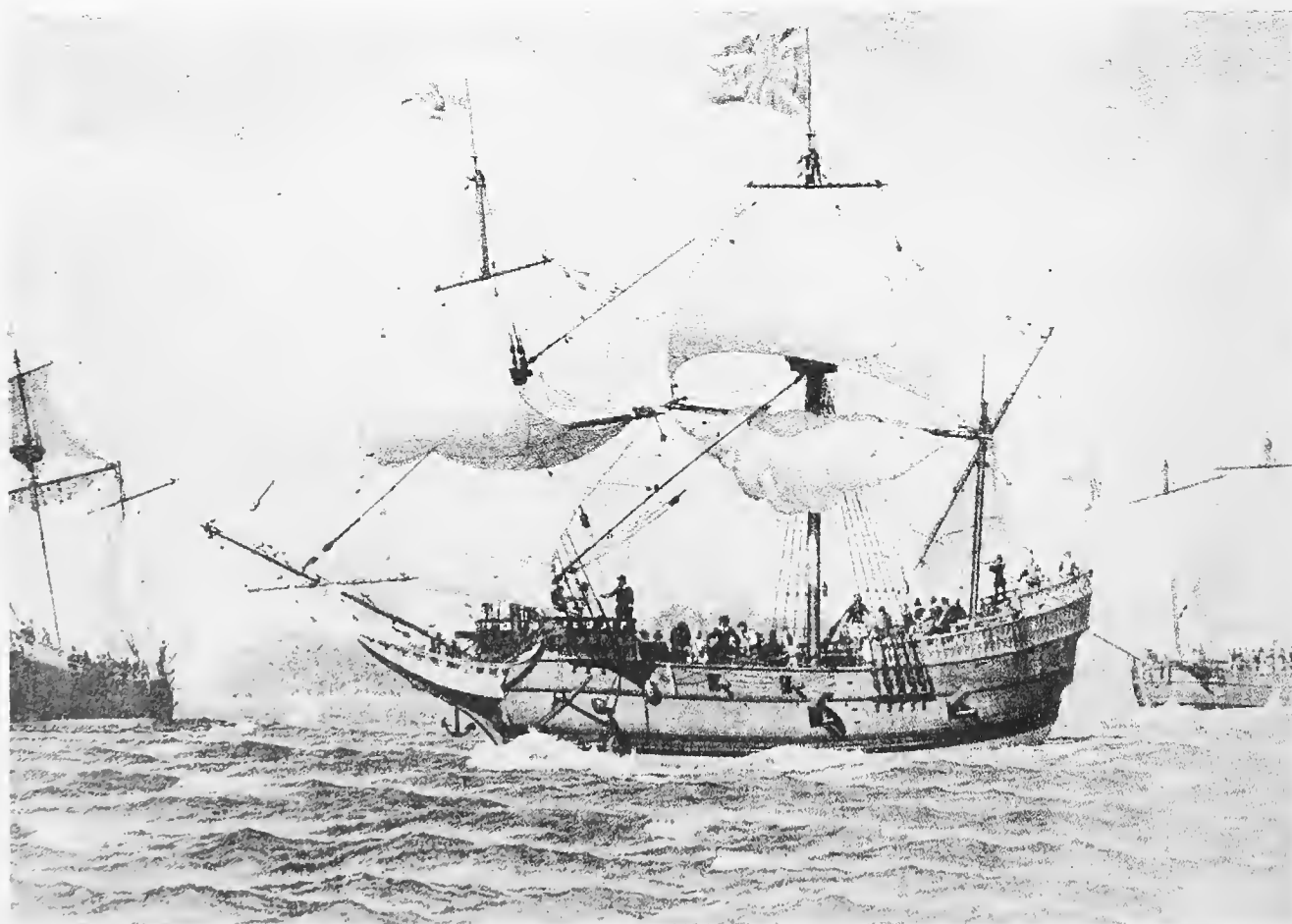
The Jamestown story reveals that the love of liberty was prevalent in the colony. Thus, the Poles found themselves in congenial company. When, however, at the time of the constituting of the General Assembly full liberty and equality for all of the colonists was mitigated against, the Poles intrepidly asserted their rights and won enfranchisement.

These details are more fully set forth and explained in the following pages of this book.

My aim is not to discuss the various historical aspects of this anniversary as interesting and fascinating as they prove to be.

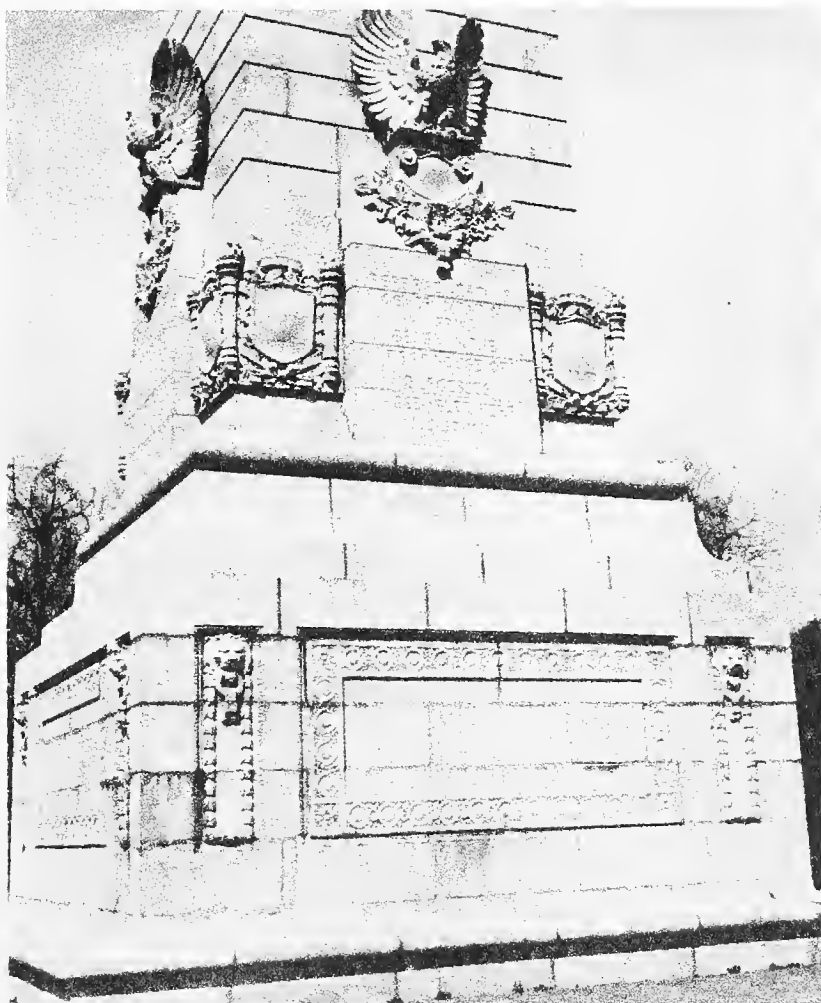
My duty and privilege is to greet you on these hallowed Jamestown grounds, on this 350th anniversary of the arrival thereto of the Polish pioneers; to express on behalf of the Executive Officers of the Polish American Congress our deep and heartfelt thanks and appreciation to all of those who contributed to the success of this observance; and to re-assert on this so memorable an occasion that seven million Americans of Polish origin cherish gratefully the legacy left to us by our ancestors, and to renew the declaration, that our mission is and shall at all times be to defend the spiritual heritage of our pioneers.

**CHARLES ROZMAREK, President
Polish American Congress.**



The arrival of the settlers at Jamestown. (A painting by Griffith Baily Coale in the State Capitol, Richmond, Virginia).

Jamestown Monument
erected by the United
States in 1907 to com-
memorate the 300th
anniversary of the
landing of the first
Jamestown settlers.



Jamestown Island
with the new cause-
way leading to the
mainland and Glass-
house Point.

JAMESTOWN IN VIRGINIA

Chronology

1606

April—King James I granted a charter to the Virginia Company of London.

December 19-20—A group of 105 colonists and 39 mariners sailed from England in three small ships, Susan Constant, Godspeed and Discovery, under the command of Captains Christopher Newport, Bartholomew Gosnold and John Ratcliffe, respectively.

1607

April 26—The ships reached the Chesapeake Bay, sailed up the James River for 17 days, and then chose a small peninsula 50 miles from its mouth as the site of the colony.

1608

September—Capt. John Smith became President of the colony by popular demand (Ratcliffe deposed).

October—Second supply ship, Mary and Margaret arrived under the command of Capt. Christopher Newport, bringing "eight Dutch men and Poles, with some others to the number of seaventie persons."

—Glass House built with the help of Poles assigned to the project by Capt. Smith.

—Manufacture of tar, pitch and potash started.

December—First samples of American-made export goods ready for shipment to England (tryals of Pitch, Tarre, Glasse, Frankincense, Sope Ashes with Clapboord and Waynscot"—True Travels).



Cape Henry—Where the Pioneers Landed



From a painting by Stephen Reid in the Norfolk Museum of Arts and Sciences, Norfolk, Virginia

1609-10—Capt. Smith wounded in conspiracy of Ratcliffe and Archer, departed (around Christmas time) for England. "The Starving Time"; only 65 colonists survived. Arrival of Lord De La Ware's fleet.¹⁾

1619—The House of Burgesses met; the Poles struck for civil liberties.

1622—The Pamunkee Indians²⁾ attacked the settlement, killing 350 men, women and children; the colonists struck back with vengeance and the Indians left them alone for the next 20 years.

1624—The Virginia Company of London lost its charter.

1644—The Pamunkees attacked again wreaking havoc in the colony.

1676—Jamestown burned to the ground during the Bacon's rebellion.³⁾

1698—Fire destroyed adjacent village; the remaining settlers left the ruins and moved to the "Middle plantation" which in 1699 took the name of Williamsburg.

* * *

1) Listed among the arrivals with Delaware were:—Lawrence Bohun and Lt. Puttocke (Potocki).

2) Indians were organized in 40 tribes of about 20,000 people. After Powhatan's daughter, Pocahontas, married John Rolfe in April, 1613, the Indian attacks ceased for a time. Powhatan was the chief of 30 tribes.

3) Nathaniel Bacon was the leader of the colonists' revolt against the tyranny of Governor Sir William Berkeley's administration.

A MAP OF VIRGINIA.
**VVITH A DESCRIPTI-
ON OF THE COVNTREY, THE
Commodities, People, Govern-
ment and Religion.**

*Written by Captaine SMITH, sometimes Go-
vernour of the Countrey.*

**WHEREVNTO IS ANNEXED THE
proceedings of those Colonies, since their first
departure from England, with the discourses,
Orations, and relations of the Salvages,
and the accidents that befell
them in all their Iournies
and discoveries.**

TAKEN FAITHFULLY AS THEY
were written out of the writings of

DOCTOR RVSSELL.
THO. STVDLEY.
ANAS TODKILL.
IEFFRA ABOT.

RICHARD WIEFIN.
WILL. PHETTIPLACE.
NATHANIEL POWELL.
RICHARD POTS.

*And the relations of divers other diligent observers there
present then, and now many of them in England.*
By VV. S.



AT OXFORD,
Printed by Joseph Barnes. 1612.

Thomas L. Williams, Photo

Primary Accounts

These are terse statements...only guideposts to the discovery and understanding of the historic drama in which Polish Jamestowners took prominent part.

"Robert, a Polonian," captured an Indian elder in a battle. It is only one heroic episode in defense of the colony, heroic enough to be recorded in the testimony of witnesses.

"Two of the Poles" saved Capt. John Smith's life in the vicinity of the Glass House.

"Matthew, a Polander," slain in the Indian massacre of 1620.

A stirring story of valor, perseverance and sacrifices is hidden within these simple words. It needs to be uncovered in further historical research for the edification of posterity.

"Polonian residents in Virginia" granted enfranchisement and "made as free as any inhabitant there whatsoever," after they successfully struck for civic liberties.

These are only the opening statements in the history yet to be reconstructed from scattered, hidden and forgotten records...the story of Pioneers of Industry, Defenders of Liberty, Soldiers of Political Equality...the story to which Conway Whittle Sams has written in "The Conquest of Virginia," a beautiful motto:—"All we know of the Poles is to their credit."



"They Were The First Heroes Of American History"

Edward Channing, A History of the U. S.

Eyewitness Accounts of:

Captain John Smith
Richard Wiffin
William Phettiplace

Anas Todkill
Captain William Powell
William Cantrill

Sergeant Boothe
Edward Gurganey
Edward Waterhouse

The original Jamestowners who testify to the presence of Poles in "the cradle of the Republic," are:—Capt. John Smith, who came to the colony with the first group of founders, stayed in Jamestown from May 1607 to the end of 1609, was one of the leaders of the colony and for a brief period its president; Richard Wiffin, William Phettiplace, Anas Todkill, Captain William Powell, William Cantrill, Sgt. Boothe and Edward Gurganey.

Their writings appear in a collective work. Its first part, "A Map of Virginia, With a Description of the Countrey, The Commodities, People, Government and Religion" had been written by Capt. Smith in Jamestown in 1608. The second part consists of reports written by eight Jamestown pioneers as additions to Smith's narrative,—“Where-

onto is annexed the proceedings of those Colonies, since their first departure from England, with the discourses, Orations, and relations of the Salvages, and the accidents that befell them in all their Journies and discoveries,—taken faithfully as they were written out of the writings of Doctor Russel, Thos. Studley, Anas Todkill, Ieffra Abot, Richard Wiefin, Will. Phettiplace, Nathaniel Powell, Richard Potts." The book had been edited by Reverend William Simmons and published at Oxford in 1612.

In Smith's part (A Map of Virginia, etc.), we read:—

"Muscovia and Polonia,) doe a yearly recaue many thousands for pitch, tarre, sope ashes,

[The Second Part of *A Map of VIRGINIA.* 1612.]

THE
PROCEEDINGS OF
THE ENGLISH COLONIE IN

Virginia since their first beginning from
England in the yeare of our Lord 1606,
*till this present 1612, with all their
accidents that befell them in their
Iournies and Discoveries.*

Also the Salvages discourses, orations and relations
of the Bordering neighbours, and how they be-
came subiect to the English.

*Unfolding even the fundamentall causes from whence haue sprang so many
miseries to the undertakers, and scandals to the businesse : taken faith-
fully as they were written out of the writings of Thomas
Studley the first provant maister, Anas Todkill, Walter
Russell Doctor of Phisicke, Nathaniell Powell,
William Phettyplace, Richard Wyffin, Thomas
Abbay, Tho : Hope, Rich : Pots and
the labours of divers other dili-
gent observers, that were
residents in Virginia.*

*And perused and confirmed by diverse now resident in
England that were actors in this busines.*

By W. S.



AT OXFORD,
Printed by Joseph Barnes. 1612.

[A. 360.]
The commodities.

Muscovia and *Polonia* doe yearly receaue many thousands, for pitch, tarre, sope ashes, Rosen, Flax, Cordage, Sturgeon, masts, yards, wainscot, Firres, glasse, and such like; also *Swethland* for iron, and *Spain* for wine in like manner, for Wine, Canvas, and Salt; *Spaine* asmuch for Iron, Steele, Figges, Reasons, and Sackes. *Italy* with

Page 360—"A Map of Virginia."

Rosen, Flax, Cordage, Sturgeon, masts, yards, wainscot, Firres, glasse and such like."

In the second part (The Proceedings), in a report signed by Smith's co-pioneers, Wiffin, Phettipiece and Todkill, we find three references to the Poles.

In Chapter VII:—

"As for the hiring of the Poles²) and Dutch, to make pitch and tarre, glasse, milles, and soap ashes was most necessarie and well."

In the same chapter the writers list the names of the persons who came to Jamestown in October, 1608, with the second supply. Among the names we find "Michael Lowicke, a gentleman," and at the end of the list this statement:

"8 Dutchmen and Poles with divers to the number of 70 persons."³)

In Chapter IX, under the title of "Howe we escape surprizing at Pamaunke," we find a description of a struggle between Smith and Indian Chief Powhatan (1609) in which we read that Smith, returning from the Glasshouse, encountered the king of Paspahugh, "a most stout Salvage," and—

"Long they struggled in the water, from whence the king, perceiving two of the Poles upon the sandes, would haue fled: but the President held him by the haire and throat til the Poles came in."⁴)

In "Generall Historie of Virginia, New England, and the Summer Isles with the names of Adventurers, Planters and Governours from their first beginning An: 1548 to this present 1624" (Oxford, 1625), we find six books (chapters), of which the first describes early voyages to America; the second is a reprint with variations of the first part of the Map of Virginia; the third is a reprint with variations of the Proceedings; the fourth takes up history of Jamestown after Smith's departure to the dissolution of the Virginia Company in May, 1624; the fifth and sixth chapters deal with Bermuda and New England.

In Generall Historie we find a new reference by Smith to the Poles in Jamestown:—

"All this time we had but one Carpenter in the Countrey, and three others that could doe little,

but desisted to be lerners; two Blacksmiths; two saylers; and those we write laborers were for most part footmen, and such as they could perswade to goe with them, that neuer did know what dayes worke was: except the Dutch men and Poles and some dozen other."

In book four, which is a compilation of extracts from other narratives interspersed with Smith's comments, we find a report signed by Captain Nathaniel Powell, William Cantrill, Sergeant Boothe and Edward Gurganey, describing a fight of the colonists with Indians, in 1616, in which two Indian elders were captured:—

"...two of their eight Elders, the one tooke by Sergeant Boothe, the other by Robert, a Polonian."

In addition to these publications, we have a pamphlet written in 1622 by Edward Waterhouse, who survived the Indian attack on Jamestown in that same year. In it, Waterhouse mentions "Matthew a Polander" as one of the victims of the massacre.

* * *

SUMMING UP:—The Poles were in Jamestown in 1608, 1609 and 1616; they were hired by the Virginia Company of London as experts, to make glass, tar, pitch and soap ashes. As the Smith's fight with the Indian chief occurred near the Glass House, and the Indian "perceived two of the Poles," it's obvious that there must have been more Poles working in the Glass House.

(It appears from Generall Historie, that some of the Colonials were teaching the Powhatan Indians the use of firearms. Smith, determined to put a stop to this practice, went to the woods in the vicinity of the Glass House "neare a myle from James Towne," where "fortie men... lie in Ambuscado for Captaine Smith." Eluding this trap, Smith encountered Powhatan).

* * *

1) It is difficult to cite exact figures on the English-Polish trade, but the export of Polish ashes through Gdansk alone amounted to about 1,000,000 Gdansk zlotys (1,500,000 Polish zlotys), or about 37,000 pounds) yearly as late as the 17th century: even in the 18th century 21,000 barrels of ashes were exported annually through that port. The export of potash to England amounted at that time to about 15,000 barrels yearly.

Twelve
Soldiers
Taken,
twelve
prisoners
taken, and
peace
concluded.

commanded to seize on them they could for prisoners; all which being done according to our directions, the Captain, and wee presently discharged, where twelve lay, some dead, the rest for life sprawling on the ground, twelve more we tooke prisoners, two whereof were brothers, two of their eight Elders, the one tooke by Sergeant Boothie, the other by Robert a Polonian.

Weere one hundred bushels of Corne we had for their ransomes, which was promised the Souldiers for a reward,

"The Fourth Booke of the Proceedings," etc.

Export of Polish wood, clapboards and other wood products amounted annually to 20 million Polish zlotys (about 50,000 pounds) in the 18th century, but it must have been much higher in the 16th and 17th centuries. Polish exports of flax and linen to England was proportionally large.—Tadeusz Korzon:—*Wewnętrzne Dzieje Polski za Stanisława Augusta*.

2)"It is not surprising to find the Company looking abroad and among the seventy settlers who sailed for Virginia in the summer of 1608 were "eight Dutchmen and Poles," some of whom were glassmakers. The so-called Dutchmen undoubtedly came from Germany, for Captain John Smith in one of his letters mentions that the London Company has sent to Germany and Poland for "glasse-men and the rest," "the rest" referring to the makers of pitch, tar, soap ashes and clapboard."

("Glassmaking at Jamestown" by J. C. Harrington)

3)"The first real step towards permanency came with the second supply which brought among its seventy new settlers a number of artisans, including the eight Dutchmen and Poles... Captain John Smith... dispatched some of the newcomers to making glass, tar, pitch, soap ashes and clapboard." (Ibid).

4)"The Dutchmen appear to have given trouble from the first, and it is doubtful if they ever contributed much to the glassmaking effort, beyond possibly assisting in the initial construction of the glasshouse. We know that some of them were carpenters, for they were sent to Chief Powhatan's village to build houses for the Indians. It appears more likely that the Poles were the glassmakers, for Smith, in his account of the fight with an Indian near the glasshouse, says that the Indian attempted to flee upon "perceiving two of the Poles." (Ibid).

With the second supply came workmen sent over to produce glass, pitch, soap ashes, and other items profitable in England. These men, including some Poles and Dutchmen, were quickly assigned to specific duties. So rapidly did they begin that "tryals" of at least one product, glass, were sent home when Newport left Jamestown before the end of the year.
—Charles E. Hatch

If Jamestown had failed, Spain and France ultimately might have divided all of North America between them and the United States of America might never have come into being.

—Louis B. Wright, Professor of American History

The Records of The Virginia Company of London

The next indisputable evidence of the presence of Poles in Jamestown is incorporated in the Records of the Virginia Company of London.

The surviving originals of these records are located in 39 different institutions in England and America. They were compiled in the years of 1906-1935, by Susan Myra Kingsbury and published in four volumes by the Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., 1935.

In the first three volumes we find references to Jamestown Poles, variously described as "Polackers," "Polanders" or "Polonians."

Let's study them:

Under date of July 21, 1619, in the Court Book we read:

Upon some dispute of the Polonians resident in Virginia, it was now agreed (notwithstanding any former order to the contrary) that they shall be enfranchised, and made as free as any inhabitant there whatsoever: and because their skill in making pitch and tar and soapashes shall not die with them, it is agreed that some young men shall be put unto them to learn their skill and knowledge therein for the benefit of the country hereafter. (Vol. 1, p. 251).

Under date of May 17, 1620, reads as follows:

Pitch and tar: potashes and soap ashes, for the making whereof the Polackers are returned to their work. (Vol I, p. 353).

An order dated May 17, 1620, reads as follows:

For pitch and tar, we advise and require that the Polackers be returned in part to these their works, with such other assistance as shall be necessary. The like we shall desire for Pot-ashes and Sope-ashes, when there shall be fit store of hand to assist them: Requiring in the meane time, the care be

generally taken, that Seruants and Apprentices be so trained up in these works, as that the skill doe not perish together with the Masters (The Poles). (Vol. III, p. 278).

For June 22, 1620, there is recorded:

For hemp and flax, potashes and soapashes, pitch and tar, there is a Treaty already on foot, for procuring of men skillful in those trades from the Eastern parts: besides the Polakers yet remaining in Virginia. (Vol. III, p. 304).

Another reference is made in a report in 1622:

A true list of names of all those that were massacred by the treachery of the Savages in Virginia at Martin Brandons: Lieutenant Sanders, Ensigne Sherley, John Taylor and his wife, two boys, and Mathew, a Polander. (Vol. III, p. 569).

Two other statements refer to claims of Molasco the Polander made against the company in person at the business sessions in 1623 and 1624. The first reference is made on February 19, 1623:

Molasco the Polander likewise earnestly besought that his petition might be read alleging that he had attended about a quarter of a year, and the Earl of Southhampton said that if his case were as he were informed he had suffered much wrong.

Mr. Deputy said that he was not altogether ignorant of the matter but know that there was so foul oppression that had been used to the poor man, and likewise upon divers others in the like cases as he was afraid, both the Companies and the Plantations did to the weight of their own sins suffer God punishment for these former offences: Wherefore he thought it most necessary to endeavor the righting of him, but that was to be done according to the form prescribed by the Quarter Court: In this Court it could not be done his case being very long and somewhat intricate: Whereupon the Earl of Southhampton willed Mr. Deputy with all convenient speed that might be to call the Committee to whom the matter was referred that so the Court might do him justice: Which Mr. Deputy promised. (Vol. II, p. 279).

The second reference is dated February 2, 1624:

Molasco the Polander petitioning for such money he said his maties: Commissioners found due unto him from the Company was answered that the Company made it appear by their answer to ye said commissioners that he was not to be satisfied from them but from such as have received great allowances from the Company for satisfaction of him and the rest of the Polanders as appeared upon the Company's Accounts. (Vol. II, p. 510).

In addition to these the Company records contain five more references to Poland, June 12, 1620:

For pitch and tar, true it is, that as some quantity hath hitherto for bee named, so may there be some hereafter, but some here that have lived long in Poland's principal country for that commodity, there be whole forests of pych trees and none else, and that for four and five hundred miles together in this part of Virginia the same kind of trees grow but scattering one here and one there, and may indeed be employed to that use but with great labor, and as great loss. (Vol. III, p. 303).

On June 22, 1620, we read:

The masts, planks and boards, the pitch and tar, the potashes and soapashes, the hemp and flax, which now we fetch from Norway, Denmark, Poland, and Germany, are there to be had in abundance and great perfection. (Vol. III, p. 308).

Under date of November 13, 1620, we find:

A certain writing was exhibited to the court by one Gabriel Wisher a man well known to some of this Company, who understanding that divers staple commodities are intended to be set up in Virginia makes offer to this Company to procure out of Poland* and Sweadland (where he is well acquainted) men skillful in making of pitch and tar, potashes and soapashes, clapboards, and pipestames, dressers of hemp and flax. (Vol. I, p. 420).

The entry for December 13, 1620, reads:

Gabriel Wisher having presented himself unto the court with offer of his service for procuring men skillful in divers commodities out of Sweadland and Poland at an easy charge so he might have his mats. (Vol. I, p. 430).

In a report given on June 19, 1622, we read:

And as for Captain Hazell he is neither Adventurer in the Company nor planter in Colony but a mere stranger to bothe otherwise known to them then as an Interpreter to a Polonian Lord. (Vol. II, p. 42).

SUMMING UP:—The Jamestown statements in the Record of the Virginia Company disclose that the Poles were skilled workers and instructors (masters), who made pitch, tar and soapashes in 1619 and 1620; that they became involved in successful dispute over enfranchisement in 1619, and that one of their number, "Matthew a Polander" perished in the Indian massacre of 1622, and one, "Molasco the Polander" sought redress for his sufferings and injustices.

We learn from the narrative that the first names of three of the Dutchmen were, Adam, Francis and Samuel. They proved to be undesirable additions to the Colony. All we know of the Poles is to their credit.
Smith's History of Virginia

The Records of The Virginia Company of London

THE COURT BOOK, FROM THE MANUSCRIPT
IN THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

EDITED
WITH AN INTRODUCTION AND BIBLIOGRAPHY, BY
SUSAN MYRA KINGSBURY, A. M., Ph. D.
INSTRUCTOR IN HISTORY AND ECONOMICS
SIMMONS COLLEGE

JULY 21, 1619

→ 251

Vpon some dispute of the Polonians resident in Virginia, it was now agreed (notwthstanding any former order to the contrary) that they shalbe enfranchized, and made as free as any inhabitant there whatsoever: And because their skill in making pitch & tarr and sopeashees shall not dye wth them, it is agreed that some young men, shalbe put vnto them to learne their skill & knowledge therein for the benefitt of the Country hereafter. [33]

*Political relations between England and Poland were, on the whole, very friendly during the last decades of the 16th and the first decades of the 17th centuries. The Polish King Stefan Batory (1575-1586) and his wise chancellor Jan Zamoyski, took great care to keep up this friendship.

Queen Elizabeth, on the other hand, highly prized the friendship of Poland, not only because of her politics directed against the Habsburgs, but also because Poland was then in an important position in the English foreign trade.

During the first years of Batory's successor, King Zygmunt III (1587-1632), friendly relations between the countries were continued. They cooled off for a time when Zygmunt showed a leaning towards the Habsburgs, but with the ascension to the throne of James I they soon improved.

King Charles I continued this policy. He even planned to marry his niece to King Wladyslaw IV (1632-48), Zygmunt's son and successor.

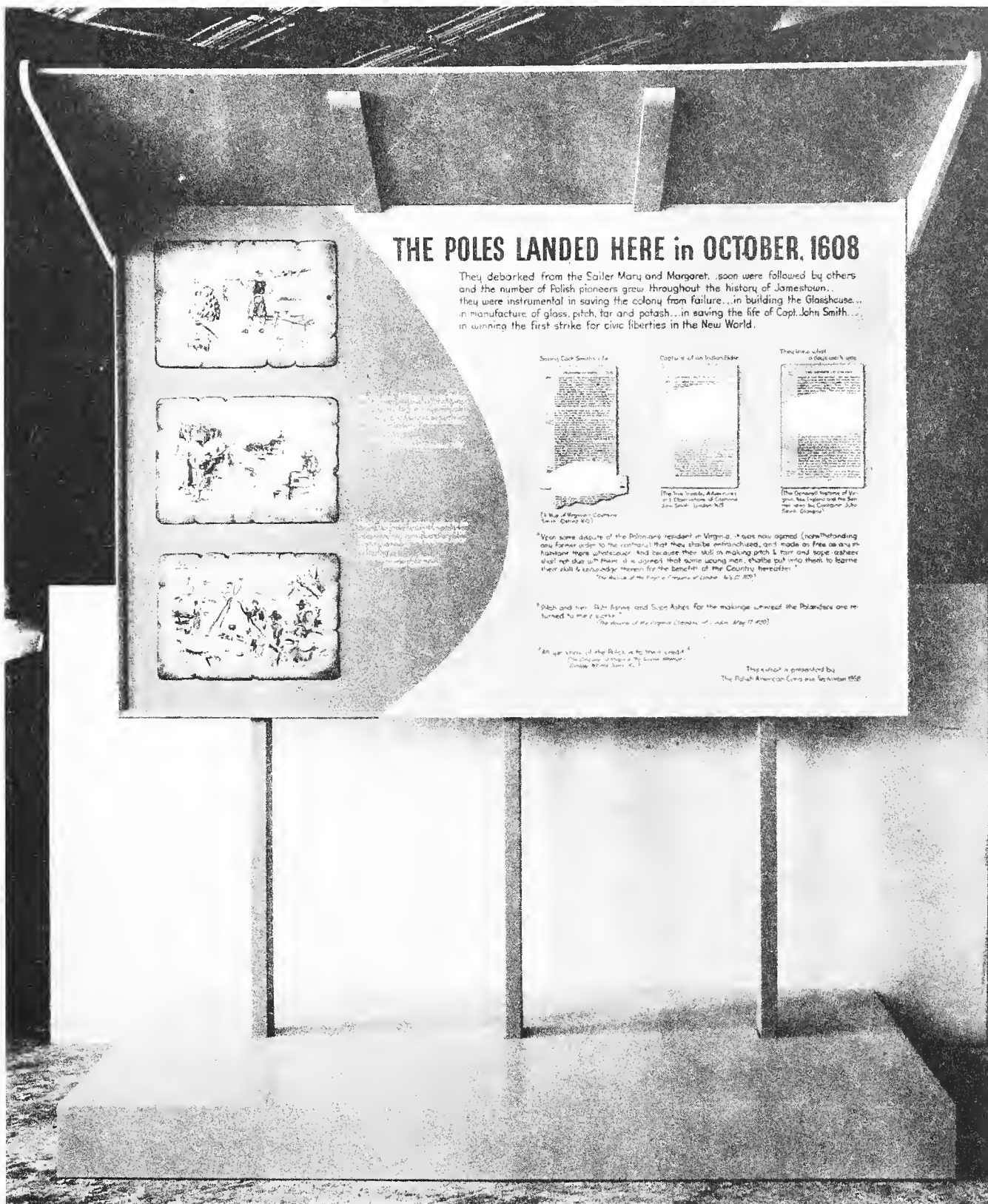
"No nation loved and esteemed your Poles more than nations subject to us," wrote Charles I to Wladyslaw on January 17, 1634.

Many Polish nobles visited England during this period. A noteworthy event, too, was the Scotch immigration to Poland, which assumed quite large proportions in the 16th and 17th centuries.—Stanisław Kot:—Anglo-Polonica.

* * *

At the time of the Poles' strike for enfranchisement—"Provision was made for a General Assembly to be held once yearly with power to make laws. The Assembly would be composed of the Governor and Council and two burgesses from each plantation freely elected by the inhabitants thereof. Thus began in America government of the people, for the people and by the people."

—F. D. Ribble



Outside Exhibit prepared by the Polish American Congress in consultation with the Colonial National Historical Park branch of the Department of the Interior, and accepted for display at the historic Glass House site by the Jamestown Committee Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities.

Reconstructions

Secondary accounts, or reconstructions of the Jamestown events and the Poles' participation in them, are based on primary sources and were written by several students of the early American history. Foremost among them are:—

Rev. Wacław Kruszką, author of *Historia Polska w Ameryce* (1937);

Mieczisław Haiman, eminent Polish-American historian and journalist who published four essays about the Polish Jamestownians—*Z Przeszłości Polskiej w Ameryce* (1927), *Polish Pioneers of Virginia and Kentucky* (1937) and *Polish Past in America—1608-1865* (1939);

Dr. Karol Wachtl, well known journalist, poet and historian, who, in his *Polonia w Ameryce*, gave the names and places of origin of the first Polish pioneers in Jamestown.*

We are reprinting herewith Haiman's essay originally published in the *Polish Past in America*.

Poles in America

by

Mieczisław Haiman

(Polish Past in America,
Polish Roman Catholic Union, 1939)

Poland influences the founding of English colonies in America.—The beginnings of Virginia also mark the beginnings of the history of Polish immigration in this country. To some degree, Poland influenced the founding of that oldest English colony in America.

Early in the 17th century England suffered a heavy economic crisis. The destruction of her forests for commercial purposes threatened the very existence of her industry, especially three of its most important branches: ship building, wool manufactures and foundries. All three required great quantities of lumber, wood and wood products. To supply these needs England was forced to import large quantities of those materials from

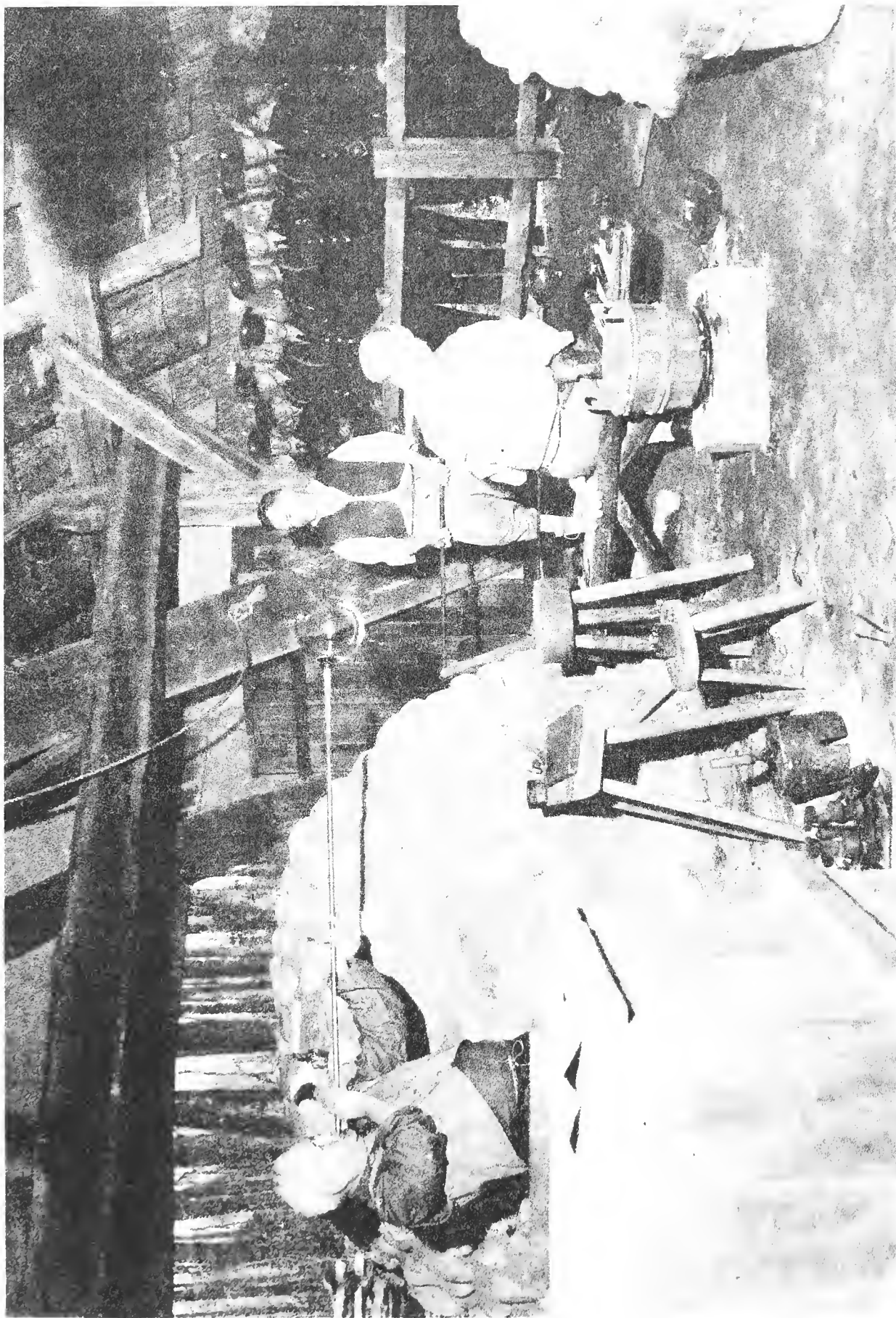
foreign countries, particularly from Poland. The main purpose of the Plymouth Company and of the Virginia Company of London, chartered by James I, for the colonization of North America, was to make England independent of Polish and other imports.

Pioneers of American History.—Jamestown was founded in 1607, by the first immigrants sent by the Virginia Company. A year later, in October 1608, the Poles appeared for the first time in the colony. They arrived with the Second Supply engaged by the Company as experts and instructors in the manufacture of glass and pitch, tar and other products which Poland exported to England. The exact number of this group is not known, but they were not more than a handful.

Immediately after their arrival the Poles started their work. They built a glass furnace about a mile from Jamestown and cut down the first trees for wood manufactures; in a short time they were able to send to England the first samples of their work which were in fact the first products of American industry. However, their labors soon met with great obstacles. Indians, pestilence and famine attacked the colony.

The winter of 1609-1610 was especially severe and became known in the history of Virginia as "starving time"; of four hundred colonists only sixty survived. Worst of all, however, was the disorder which reigned in the colony. Most of the first settlers were the famous "vagabond gentlemen" who were accustomed to easy life and came to Virginia in quest of fabulous gold mines. In contrast to them, the Poles conducted themselves very creditably. Captain John Smith who did not mince words when speaking of his lazy countrymen, spoke of the Poles in terms of the highest praise. "They," said he, meaning the colonists generally, "never did know what a day's work was except the Dutchmen and Poles." Later documents speak of the Poles with praises, too, and the Virginia Company tried, not without success, to induce more of them to come over from Europe.

...for the hiring of the Poles and Dutch-men, to make Pitch, Tar, Glasse, Milles, and Sope ashes, when the Country is replenished with people, and necessaries, would have done well, but to send them and seautic more without victuals to worke, was not so well advised nor considered of, as it should have been. Yet this could not be done, for they were 200 though then we were 130 that wanted for our selves. For we had the Salvages in that *decorum* (their harvest being newly gathered,) that we feared not to get victuals for



Glassblowers at work in the reconstructed Glass House of 1608 at Jamestown. The Glass House was set up with the help of the Poles at the time of Capt. John Smith to make glass for export to England. It was rebuilt by the National Park Service. (T. L. William Photo).

Adventurers brought to attend them, or such as they could perswade to goe with them, that neuer did know what a dayes worke was: except the *Dutch-men* and *Poles*, and some dozen other. For all the rest were poore Gentle-men Traddelsmen. Serving-men. libertines. and such like

Page 434—Edward Arber's "Travels and Works of Capt. Smith."

With some intermissions the manufacture of wood products by the Poles in Virginia lasted till about 1622. The massacre of that year, in which some Poles also perished, was a fatal stroke to its existence.

Poles save Captain Smith's life.—The Virginia Poles distinguished themselves also as soldiers. The first instance of their bravery is recorded in 1609; when the Indians set an ambush to kill Captain Smith the Poles saved his life and captured an Indian Chief. In 1616, during Governor Yeardley's administration, a "Robert a Polonian" distinguished himself in an expedition against the Indians.

Pioneers of American liberty.—In 1619, during the second administration of Governor Yeardley, a limited autonomy was introduced in the colony. On July 30th, the first legislative assembly on the American continent met at Jamestown. However, some of the inhabitants were denied the right to representation. Among the disfranchised were the Poles, and this made them so indignant, that they decided to cease working till the injustice would be removed. This was the first strike in the history of the United States.

The dispute assumed such proportions that Yeardley was forced to report it to the Council at London. The Poles won in the end.

The records of the Company mention under the date of July 3rd, 1619:

"Upon some dispute of the Polonians resident in Virginia, it was now agreed (notwithstanding any former order to the contrary) that they shall be enfranchised and made as free as any inhabitant there whatsoever: and because their skill in making pitch and tar and soap ashes shall not die with them, it is agreed that some young men shall be put unto them to learn their skill and knowledge therein for the benefit of the country hereafter."

This first strike of the Poles in Virginia, not for economical advantages, but for political rights, may be justly regarded as the first struggle and the first victory for the cause of freedom on this continent.

*Wachtl, quoting *Wieści Polskie*, published in London in 1831, lists the following Polish pioneers, who arrived in Jamestown in October, 1608:—Michał Łowicki, Zbigniew Stefanski, Jan Mata, Stanisław Sadowski, Karol Zrenica and Jan Bogdan. The evidence, supporting this list, however, appears to be of a presumptive type and is not yet based on ascertained facts. More research in this field is needed.

Recalls Aid To Colony By Poles

Cites Testimony by Capt. Smith in His Book

By THOMAS E. KISSLING

(Reprinted from The Monitor)

First factory in United States, 1608: Festivities at Jamestown, Va., commemorating the 350th anniversary of the founding of the 1st permanent English settlement there in 1607 recall the fact that artisans from Catholic Poland operated a glassworks there in 1608, the first factory in America. During the year's festival celebration, members of the American Flint Glassworkers Union, dressed in costumes of 17th century craftsmen, will demonstrate how the glass was made.

Jamestown, Va.: The arrival in Virginia of artisans in 1608 from Catholic Poland saved from failure the first permanent English settlement in America.

This is the testimony of the leader of the colonists, Capt. John Smith, recorded in a book published in London in 1630, *The True Travels, Adventures, and Observations of Capt. John Smith*.

The colony was founded at Jamestown in 1607, by the Virginia Company of London, chartered by James I, and financed in part by lotteries. It was hoped that the colonists would soon be sending back to England imports badly needed for her industries.

However, the "gentlemen adventurers" who accompanied Captain Smith on the first voyage were more interested in searching for gold. They proved unequal to the tough job of chopping out wilderness, and fighting off the Indians. With food and other supplies dwindling, Smith besought his backers in London to send him some carpenters, blacksmiths, masons, and other artisans.

Arriving with the second supply, aboard the 40-ton ship *God Speed*, in October 1608, were "Dutchmen and Poles," some of whom were glass-makers and carpenters, recruited by the London Co. in Germany and Poland.

*Twelve Sal-
vages slaine,
twelve
prisoners
taken, and
peace
concluded.*

which being done according to our direction, the Capitaine gave the word, and wee presently discharged, where twelve lay, some dead, the rest for life sprawling on the ground, twelve more we tooke prisoners, two whereof were brothers, two of their eight Elders, the one tooke by Sergeant Boothe, the other by Robert a Polonian; Neere one hundred ~~hundred~~ of ~~the~~ ~~Generall~~ ~~Historie~~ ~~of~~ ~~Virginia~~ ~~Vol.~~ ~~2.~~ which was promised the Souldiers for a reward

Page 234—"The Generall Historie of Virginia," Vol. 2.

Polish Artisans

The Poles, the first to come to America, were engaged as artisans and instructors in the manufacture of glass, pitch, tar, soap ashes, and other products.

They immediately set to work and within 3 weeks had a roaring fire going under a glass furnace. This was the first factory in America. Within a short time samples of their work, presumably the green glass bottles and vases of that period, were sent back to England. These were the first "Made in America" items shipped abroad.

The exact location of the original factory was discovered in 1931 by the late Jesse Dimmick, owner of the land known for centuries as "Glass-House Point."

However, it was not until 1948 and 1949 that archaeologists from the National Park Service researched, explored, and excavated the site of the factory. They found the remains of the furnaces, crucible, and pot fragments and melted and marked pieces of glass.

Reconstruction

These discoveries, plus study and research in England, enabled the experts to reconstruct the 17th-century glasshouse at a cost of \$100,000, the joint project of the Jamestown Glasshouse Foundation, Inc., and the National Park Service, United States Department of the Interior.

During the Jamestown 350th Anniversary Festival glass is again manufactured here. The demonstrators, dressed in costumes of the 17th century, are members of the American Flint Glass Workers' Union, who also contributed generously to financing the project.

Some of the Poles were also engaged in the early years in the manufacture of clapboards and other wood products, which were shipped back to England. Others served as soldiers.

In 1609 it was recorded that when the Indians set an ambush to kill Captain Smith, the Poles saved his life and captured an Indian chief. Mention is also made of "Robert, a Polonian" who in 1616 during Governor Yearley's administration distinguished himself against the Indians.

Capacity For Hard Work

There is no mention in the records of the Virginia Company that these first Poles to come to America took the oath of supremacy and allegiance to the King and Church of England, which called for repudiation of the Pope and See of Rome.

Skilled craftsmen and artisans were so badly needed and so difficult to recruit it is doubtful that they were required to take the oath usually administered to the colonists. It is not disclosed in the official records of the colony that those among them who were Catholic remained Catholic or had their spiritual needs provided for.

Imbued with a capacity for hard work, the Poles also had a flaming love for freedom. It was they who struck the first blow for civil liberty in America. In 1619 when a limited autonomy was introduced into the colony, the first legislative assembly on the American continent met at Jamestown. The Poles, along with some others, were denied the right to vote because they were indentured for the cost of their voyage.

They were so indignant that they refused to work in the glasshouse until they were enfranchised. And thus began the first strike in the history of the United States.

The matter was of such importance that Governor Yearley reported it to the Council in London. A manuscript in the Library of Congress shows that the Poles won the strike for their political rights. Under date of July 3, 1619, the Court Book of the Virginia Company of London (vol. I, p. 32) records that the "Polonaise resident in Virginia" are now "enfranchised and made as free as any inhabitant there whatsoever." And this was their victory for equal suffrage in America.

* * *

References to the Jamestown Poles and to Poland are also made in the following publications:

Dr. Andrew Bode:—Fyrst Booke of the Introduction to knowledge, London, 1542.

A True Declaration of the Estate of the Colonie in Virginia, London, 1610.

Records of American Catholic Historical Society, Vol. XXII.

Maud Sellers:—The Acts and Ordinances of the Eastland Company, London, 1906.

Alexander Brown:—The Genesis of the United States, Boston, 1890.

Lyon Gardiner:—The Cradle of the Republic, Richmond, Va., 1900.

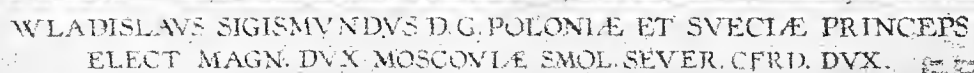
Conway Whittle Sams:—The Conquest of Virginia. The Second Attempt, Norfolk, Va., 1929.

Edward Eggleston:—The Beginners of a Nation, New York, 1896.



KING ZYGMUNT III OF POLAND, 1587-1632

(See preface; also footnote on page 16)

[illegible]

1. *Chrysomelidae*
 2. *Chrysomelidae*
 3. *Chrysomelidae*
 4. *Chrysomelidae*

(See footnote on page 16)

"I Want to Greet You — the Descendants of Our Early Settlers in the New World"

An Address by A. D. Chandler,
President of the College of
William and Mary

(Delivered at Jamestown Observance, October 18, 1953—
the 345th anniversary of the landing of Poles in America)

If I were to fail to say at the outset that I am honored to have the privilege to participate in this ceremony, I would be less than truthful. I want to thank you and your president for inviting me.

I want to greet you—the descendants of our early settlers in the New World.

This area has long been renowned for keeping alive the heritage of Virginia and the nation. The college which I serve has been distinguished for its alumni who played a leading role in the making of the nation and in the education of our youth. Jefferson, one of our alumni, founded the University of Virginia. I could list innumerable alumni who made the heritage of this great nation and who played and are playing a dynamic role in keeping it alive.

We in Virginia feel that Jamestown is hallowed ground because this area is the monument to the spreading of the European influence in America.

Not far from where we meet today, there was established three hundred and forty five years ago, the first industry in what is now the United States of America.

The First Seeds

We are all here to commemorate that event, and to honor the memories of the five men from Poland who planted the first seeds from which has grown the greatest industrial nation under God.

Jamestown was founded in 1607, two years before this historical event. The first settlers were, in the main, a band of gentlemen adventurers lured here by the myth that the shores of the New World were strewn with gold. It took the example of the Polish glass makers to demonstrate to the colonists that the treasures of Virginia were in its soil, not nuggets to be had for picking.

Need Of Stout Hearts

There was ample wealth, but it required strong arms, stout hearts, and technical knowledge to convert it into coin.

Only thirty-two of the original band of one hundred and five settlers survived the first two winters in Virginia. When the second group arrived with seventy recruits for the new colony,

Captain John Smith warmly welcomed the five Polish artisans among them, not only because they were what Jamestown most needed—skilled workmen—but because he knew them as representatives of a sturdy, industrious, liberty loving nation.

John Smith had reason to respect and admire the Poles. Only a few years before, in Christian Europe's wars with the infidels, he had been captured by the Turks and led into slavery. All of Southeastern Europe was then held by the Mohammedans and the first Christian sanctuary the fugitive found was in Poland. In the book he later wrote, called *The True Travels*, John Smith describes how he crossed Poland, aided every foot of the way by the people unmatched in his experience for, as he said it, "Respect, Mirth, Content and Entertainment," who insisted on loading him with gifts before sending him on to the next town.

First Factory

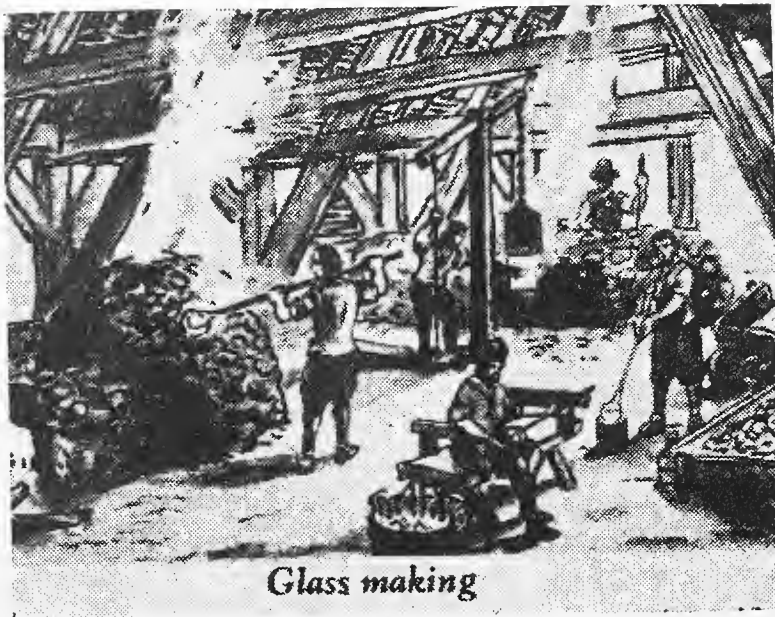
These first Polish settlers to America soon proved Smith's confidence. Allotted a tract of land about one mile from the fort, which was the only building—they immediately set to work to build their little factory. When the English ship was ready to sail back across the Atlantic, it carried a full line of samples which the glass-makers were prepared to turn out in commercial quantities, as well as a cargo of pitch, or tar, distilled from Virginia's pine trees, and other products of the field and forest which the so-called "Polonians" had manufactured.

These five men proved to be such an asset to the first English colony that more of their fellow countrymen were invited to settle here. In a few years fifty Poles were living in Jamestown. As was the custom then, almost all of the colonists worked out their passage by pledging themselves to work for the company which owned the settlement. Thus, in from two to three years, the immigrant's labor had repaid the company for the passage by ship from Europe, and they duly became free citizens of the community.

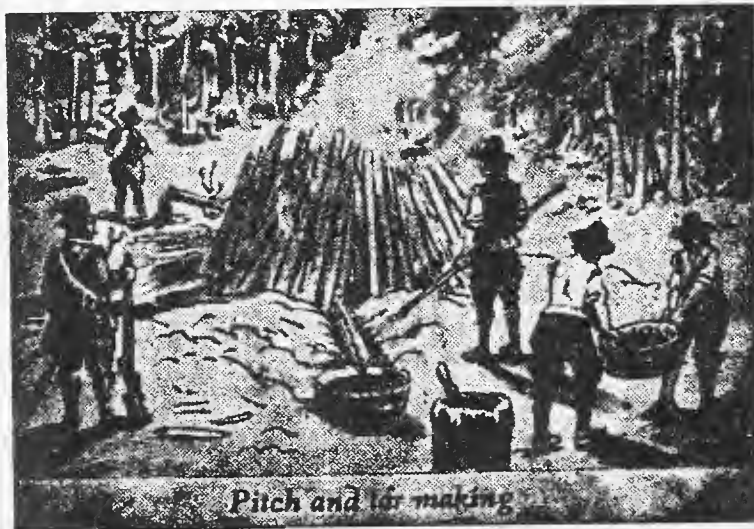
Love Of Freedom

That brings us to another first event in America, the first blow for civil liberty and the right to citizenship on equal terms, which the Polish colony, in the Virginia of three centuries ago, successfully registered.

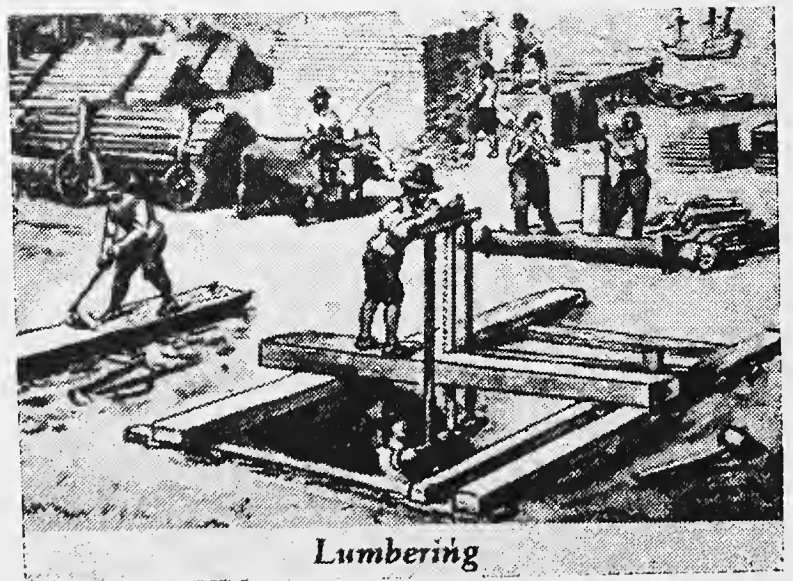
In the year 1619 the Jamestown colony was granted a form of self-government by the London company. That was a memorable year for the thriving little colony, destined within three years to be



Glass making



Pitch and tar making



Lumbering

all but wiped out in an Indian massacre. In 1619 a shipload of women arrived, women who were willing to brave the hard life on the frontiers of a new country just to get husbands. There wasn't one who was not on her honeymoon before sunset on the day of their landing.

I wonder how many of the young women, who complain today how hard it is to catch a husband, would take the same gamble?

Disfranchised

At any rate, as history reveals, the Jamestown colony was then divided into boroughs, boroughs in which every man who had worked up his indebtedness to the London company was given the right to vote. Every man, that is, except the half-a-hundred Poles, who incidentally, monopolized the industries of Jamestown. The British colonists, dependent as they were on their Polish fellowsettlers, arbitrarily decided that citizenship should be a privilege reserved for their own special group.

The same undemocratic spirit, unfortunately, still survives to much in the world today. Too many persons, who falsely think themselves the best kind of American, sometimes look down on their fellow citizens, forgetting that all the people in America, who are not Indians, are descendants of immigrants, whether they came here 300 or 30 years ago.

Well, the Polish colonists in Virginia protested. They said they were as good Americans as any of the rest who came to America with them or even later. When their protests were ignored they said, "Okey" (for however you say it in Polish) no citizenship, no work."

Not Exactly A Strike

So they closed down the glass factory, the tar distillery, the soap works and spent their days fishing and dancing the polka.

Perhaps you could call it the first strike in America, except that the Polonians were not quitting work on an employer. They shut down their own industries. Except for the few pounds of tobacco the colonists were beginning to export, practically all of the profits realized by the London Company came from the re-sale of the products of the Polish industries. The Jamestown government quickly realized that if it sent empty ships back to England, the consequences could be very unpleasant.

And so, members of the Jamestown General Assembly quickly declared their Polish fellow — colonists to have full citizenship with every right of the vote and equal representation. Thereafter the community prospered in peace and unity. The colony grew far beyond the borders of the little point of land where the first colonists had built their log fort and crude glass factory, despite bitter factional quarrels between, what we would call, rival political machines.

Indian Attack

Then, in March 1622, the Indians of this region, alarmed at the spread of the pale-faces, rose and massacred more than 300 of the colonists and burned farm houses and factories. It was a blow from which Jamestown never recovered. The London Company went into bankruptcy, and other settlements in Virginia soon outstripped the first colony. Later, Jamestown was the ruin it appears to be today. Jamestown is a monument to the thrift, the industry, the courage and the love of liberty, of those earliest of our colonists. These virtues were exemplified by the Poles in America.

That monument can never be ruined. Every passing year will see it grow greater and brighter.

A Prayer

In the centuries succeeding the establishment of Jamestown, hundreds of thousands of Poles have followed the footsteps of these first immigrants, to weave into the fabric of America the industry, the poetry, the music, the arts and the sciences, which Poland has contributed to the welfare of the world since history began. Pulaski and Kościuszko today are names as American as Jefferson, Adams and Hamilton.

Let us pray that the Polish spirit which has helped America become great, will some day very soon free the mother country from the slavery imposed upon it by the monster, Communism.





Replicas of the three ships that brought the first settlers to the New World

Frankly Speaking . . .

By BILL FRANK

Most of us think that anyone with a name ending in "ski" is of a generation of newcomers, fresh from the old country.

And a lot of people also assume that anyone with a name that has a combination of "z" and "c" is of parentage that came to this country in the steerage of huge ocean liners filled with immigrants from mid-Europe.

But it's high time we came to realize that the people with names ending in "ski" have been in this country as long as the Smiths and the Jeffersons, the Randolphs and the others with more pronounceable names.

Too Little About Poles

I guess a great deal of what we know about peoples in American history depends upon how well certain historians have popularized certain personalities.

Up until now, there's been too little published about the contributions of the Poles, for example.

The average American, I'm sure, has an idea that the Poles in our country came here along about the 1880s or soon after that . . . and the immigration from Poland was stepped up in the early part of the 20th Century.

Also, the same average American thinks that the only Poles who ever made any contribution to this country before the last decade of the 19th Century were Kosciuszko and Pulaski.

I certainly don't want to depreciate the valiant services these two noted Poles gave to these United States — particularly Pulaski, who died for the young democracy.

But now along comes Vincent J. Kowalewski, of the Polish American Congress in Delaware, and sends me a brochure that has opened my eyes.

Another John Smith Story

Every American school kid knows that an Indian girl, Pocahontas, saved the life of the fabulous Capt. John Smith but—

How many know that two Poles, Zbigniew Stefanski and Jan Bogdan, also saved the life of the intrepid captain when he was about to be ambushed by Indians?

We read a great deal about the first families of Virginia, etc., but not enough about those first Poles who helped to save Jamestown from total failure.

They Were Skilled Craftsmen

Let's go back a little in American history and pause at the year 1607.

That was the year when Jamestown was founded by the Virginia Company of London.

The newcomers were faced with all kinds of problems in the new world. They especially needed skilled craftsmen, whose services were essential to the survival of the colony.

Where to get them?

The Englishmen remembered that for years Poland had been England's principal source of pitch, tar, rosin, flax, masts, wainscots, and glass.

England Turns To Poland

There England could enlist the craftsmen for the great adventure in the new world.

And so on Oct. 1, 1608—350 years ago—the ship Mary and Margaret arrived in Jamestown with a company of Poles. The roster contained such names as Michael Nowicki, Stanisław Sadowski, Jan Mata—all journeymen in the crafts that were badly needed. And they were soldiers, too, good fighters.

Within three weeks after the Poles arrived in Jamestown, things began to hum. A glass furnace was roaring—the first factory in America.

And within two months, the ship Mary and Margaret was on its way to England with American-made materials—the first export of manufactured goods—soap ashes, tar, pitch, green glass bottles and vases.

The Big Strike

Later, other Poles arrived. They were dreamers, too, and adventurers, in a way—but they also had a very practical outlook on life. The romantic stories of early America just never gave them a break.

Then came the big strike for civil liberties.

Fed up with the finagling in the colony of Jamestown, Captain John Smith decided to return to England. The Poles refused to stay behind. They'd have none of the shenanigans.

They went to London but not for long. The Virginia Company implored them to return to Jamestown and help the colonists attain industrial self-sufficiency. Reluctantly, the Poles agreed but on one major condition: There were to be more rights for the people.

Denied Vote

Everything went along all right until they were denied the right to vote for members of the legislative assembly.

And the reason?

A flimsy and vicious one.

It was said that the Poles couldn't vote because they were still in debt for their passage from England to America.

All right—so the Poles just went on strike. They stopped working in the glass factory.

Gov. George Yeardley tried to reason with the Poles—but he probably never bumped up against the dogged stubbornness of Poles sticking up for what they believe are their rights. Some of the most infamous dictators of Europe have had apples out of that barrel, even in our day.

The Strike Ends

The whole mess became a first class stench that seeped over to England, and eventually it was decided that "concessions be made to the Polanders"—and the strike was ended.

The first strike in America—not for economic gains but for civil liberty!

All this and a lot more about the contributions of Polish craftsmen and workers are to be found in the dusty annals of American history, hidden far too long.

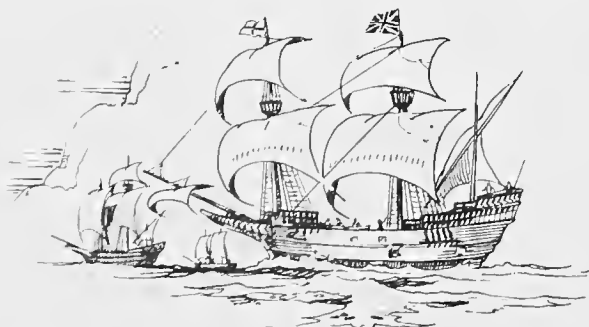
It is most refreshing to learn that Poles all over the United States are going to observe the 350th anniversary of the arrival of the first Polish immigrants to these shores.

It should knock the theory that Poles are "fur-riners" into a cocked hat.

In the year 1600, it is estimated that the total native (Indian) population of Virginia was about 20,000. Of that number, some 2,000 descendants, mostly mixed bloods, are living today. Of these, the Chickahominy and the Pamunkey still retain some vestiges of their tribal organization—the last visible remnant of the once proud Powhatan confederacy.

—Matthew W. Stirling

* * *



Visit America's First Industry-GLASS

JAMESTOWN FESTIVAL

MARCH 31st TO DECEMBER 1st, 1958

1958 marks the 350th Anniversary of GLASS manufacturing in America. And, the chief anniversary exhibit is the replica of the First Glass Factory, originally built in 1608 by Virginia Colonists at Glasshouse Point, near Jamestown. In fact, GLASS was the First industry to be established in this country.

The remains of the original factory were first discovered in 1931. With the invaluable aid of National Park Service archaeologists, an exact reconstruction of the factory was recently completed by the Jamestown Glasshouse Foundation and the National Park Service, in Colonial National Historical Park, adjoining the Jamestown Festival Area.

Last year, the attendance of hundreds of thousands of people from all parts of the United States, proved the exhibit to be one of the high points of the Festival. The response was so overwhelming that during 1958 the Glasshouse is again

OPEN from March 31st until December 1st

DAILY from 10 A. M. to 5:30 P. M.

You will see glassworkers costumed in authentic colonial garb, working with the tools and in the manner of the period. Their handcrafted glass products are illustrative of the time-tested skills required in the Glass Industry, both in the past and the present.

Invest a small amount of time and you and your family can step into a World of History-Come-Alive. You will find this exhibit unique, imaginative, educational. Make plans NOW . . . See GLASS made at the *only* 17th Century operating glasshouse in the world.

Sponsored by the
JAMESTOWN GLASSHOUSE FOUNDATION
INCORPORATED

*A Non-Profit Organization of
America's Leading Glass Producers*



First meeting of Virginia's General Assembly in a Jamestown church in 1619.

Universal Suffrage Was The Primary Motive Of The Strike

HON. FRANK C. OSMERS
OF MICHIGAN

in the House of Representatives

Among the passengers were a handful of strong, rugged artisans, who along with Capt. Smith, labored in the woods with their axes, making a clearing and setting up the first factories in the new world. To this group Smith later gave credit for saving the colony of Jamestown and in effect for insuring that America would develop as an English-speaking nation. Yet oddly enough, these artisans were not Englishmen, but were the earliest Polish immigrants to this country.

A few years later the Poles set another precedent in their adopted land. At the time of the election in Virginia of the first legislative body in America, only natives of England were to be allowed to vote. With justifiable indignance, the Poles successfully staged America's first strike—laying down their tools until they were granted full equality with the other colonists. Economic gain was not the primary motive, but rather the

establishment of the principle of universal suffrage.

The number of Poles in our country and their American-born descendants have grown rapidly from the small handful of artisans in Jamestown. Today they total nearly seven million.

But the essential character of these people has never changed. Endowed with an astounding capacity for hard work and a love for freedom that has been denied to them in the mother-land Polish immigrants have chosen to join others in their fight for independence. In the American Revolution, for example, the muster rolls of the Continental Army reveal at least a thousand "ski's" and wicz's" and other unmistakably Polish immigrants have chosen to join others in young volunteers, Tadeusz Kosciuszko and Casimir Pulaski. Both possessed a love of liberty knowing no national borders, and saw America's struggle for freedom as their own. Kosciuszko was the first foreign officer to arrive here, sailing at his own expense to offer his services to General Washington even before the Declaration of Independence had been signed.

THE
GENERAL HISTORIE
OF
Virginia, New-England, and the Summer Iles,
WITH
THE NAMES OF THE ADVENTURERS, PLANTERS, AND
GOVERNOURS FROM THEIR FIRST BEGINNING,
AN. 1584. TO THIS PRESENT 1626.
WITH
THE PROCEEDINGS
OF THOSE SEVERALL COLONIES AND THE ACCIDENTS
THAT BEFELL THEM IN ALL THEIR JOURNYES
AND DISCOVERIES.
ALSO
THE MAPS AND DESCRIPTIONS
OF THOSE COUNTRYES, THEIR COMMODITIES, PEOPLE, GOVERNMENT, CUSTOMES
AND RELIGION YET KNOWNE.
DIVIDED INTO SIXE BOOKES.
By CAPTAINE JOHN SMITH,
SOMETIMES GOVERNOUR OF THOSE COUNTRYES AND ADMIRALL OF NEW ENGLAND

VOL. II.

FROM THE LONDON EDITION OF 1629.

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1819.

Gratefully We Acknowledge . . .

It is a high privilege to bear witness to the debt which this country owes to men of Polish blood. Gratefully we acknowledge the services of those intrepid champions of human freedom—Pulaski and Kosciuszko—whose very names are watchwords of liberty and whose deeds are part of the imperishable record of American independence . . . They and the millions of other men and women of Polish blood, who have united their destinies with those of America—whether in the days of Colonial settlement; in the war to attain independence; in the hard struggle out of which emerged our national unity; in the great journeyings across the Western Plains to the slopes of the Pacific; on farms or in town or city—through all of our history they have made their full contribution to the upbuilding of our institutions and to the fulfillment of our national life.

(Excerpts from an address of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, President of the United States, on the occasion of reinterment of remains of General Wladimir Krzyzanowski at Arlington National Cemetery, October 11, 1937).



The 350th Anniversary

HON. DANIEL J. FLOOD

of Pennsylvania

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, the earliest Polish settlers in this country arrived in October 1608 in Jamestown, Va., just 1 year after the founding of this historic town. That is the first landmark of Poles in America, and I am indeed glad that its 350th anniversary is being celebrated this year.

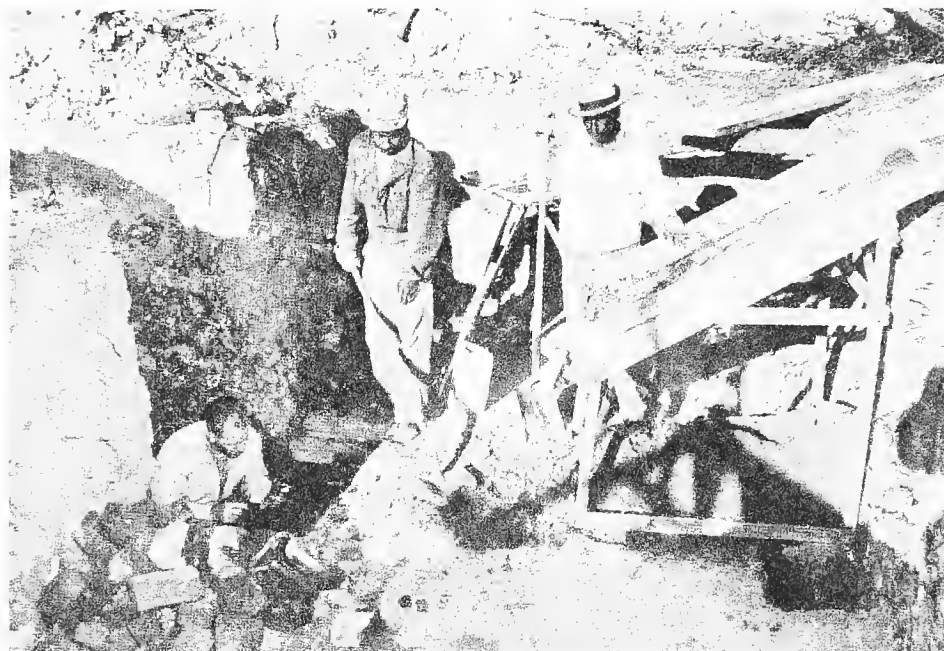
We do not know with certainty how many Poles were in that immigrant first group; probably they were not more than a handful. It is said that they were brought here "as experts and instructors in the manufacture of glass and pitch, tar and other products" which Poland exported to England in those days. Near Jamestown they built a glass furnace, and in a short time they were able to send to England the first samples of their work; these were the first products of American industry. Thus the earliest Polish settlers in America were artisans and technicians, and as such they contributed greatly to the birth and growth of certain industries here even in those early days.

The Poles also distinguished themselves as brave soldiers. Their descendants have turned out to be among the best and bravest fighters in defense of this country. It is stated that the first instance of their bravery in America is recorded in the year 1609. In that year when the Indians had set an ambush to kill Capt. John Smith, it was a group of Poles who saved his life. But the daring, bravery, and their devotion to the cause of free-

dom and independence was fully demonstrated in our Revolutionary War. It is hardly necessary to narrate in detail the deeds and accomplishment of Thaddeus Kosciuszko and Casimir Pulaski, the bravest and most illustrious of Poles whose noble deeds are enshrined in the annals of this country. In a sense we can hardly do as much for Poland as these two Poles did for America during her fight for independence.

Thus long before the independence of this country, and ever since then, the Poles have been very active in their constructive work. Today many million Americans of Polish descent are among our most patriotic, public-spirited, and loyal citizens. They have, in the course of their long history here, contributed immensely, and in many instances with great distinction, to our civilization. I am extremely glad and proud to participate in this historic celebration, the 350th anniversary of the first Polish settlement in America.





**EXCAVATIONS AT JAMES-
TOWN IN 1955**



**THE FOUNDATIONS OF
THE FIRST STATEHOUSE
AT JAMESTOWN**



Men And Women Of Polish Blood Contributed Their Toil And Talents

HON. CLEMENT J. ZABLOCKI
OF WISCONSIN
in the House of Representatives

It is proper and fruitful for us to engage in such commemorations. They give us a better understanding of our heritage, and they help us to appreciate the principles which should guide us in our endeavors through the years to come,

I am particularly pleased that we have this opportunity to recall the part which people of Polish ancestry have played in the early history of America, and of our Nation.

In our daily activities we come in contact with many persons bearing Polish names who came to the United States during the last 50 or 70 years. The majority of Americans of Polish ancestry probably belong to that group: the group consisting of first-and second-generation Americans.

This should not be taken to indicate that the participation of immigrants from Poland in the growth and development of the United States is confined to the last few generations. The very opposite is the case. The entire history of our Nation, and the record of the early colonization of the New World, contain ample evidence that men and women of Polish blood contributed their toil and talents to the settlement of North America, and to the birth and development of our great Republic.

We should remember this fact and, to this end, our thoughts turn today to the small British sailing vessel, named Mary and Margaret, which crossed the Atlantic Ocean and docked in Jamestown, Va., 350 years ago.

Aboard this ship, which was bringing provisions and settlers to Jamestown, were five Poles, specialists in industry, who came to the New World to lend their talents, and their energies, to the task of developing the American Continent.

From old records we have learned that these five Polish experts built the first glass furnace on the American continent, organized the production of soap, pitch, clapboards, and other building materials, and contributed greatly to the success of the early English colony at Jamestown.

These facts should be remembered by all of us, and we should take pride in them. We should be equally proud of the countless other men and women who came to this land from Poland in the decades and centuries that followed the settle-

ment at Jamestown, helped to conquer the wilderness, and to build the American Nation upon this continent.

The names of many of those men and women are long forgotten, but the fruits of their labors are here for all of us to enjoy. They are a part of our great American heritage.

Our heritage is made up of many things—of customs and traditions brought here from other lands, of the political and social institutions which were born abroad and developed here, and of the material progress which our Nation has achieved through the rare blending of our natural resources with the know how and energy expanded in developing them.

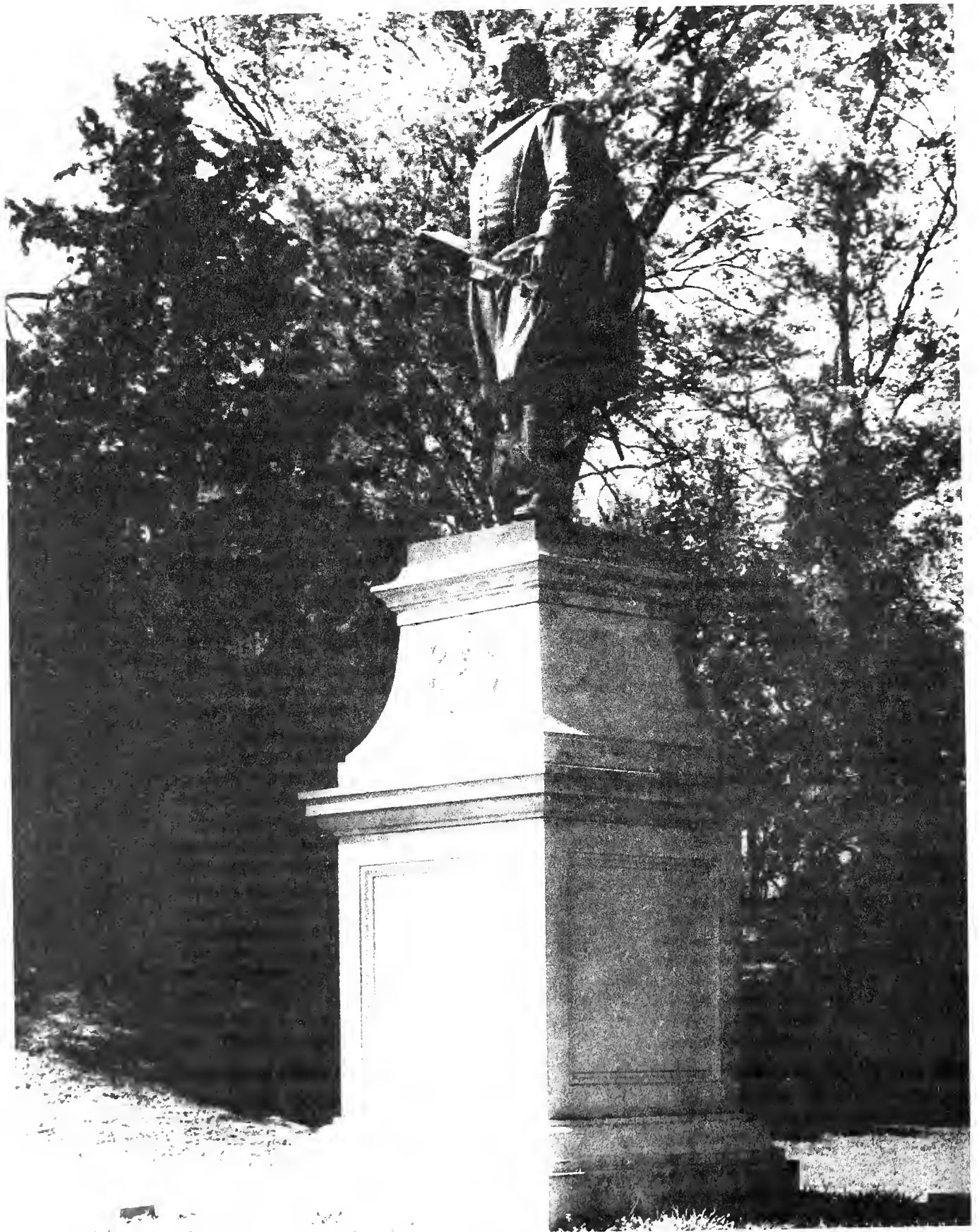
As we consider our way of life, we become aware of the extent to which our institutions are modeled after principles developed long ago in Europe. Many of the immigrants brought to this land not only their meager personal belongings, their skills and their trades, but also their personal experience with social and political institutions. All this enriched our society, and facilitated the progress of our Republic.

In thinking about these matters, we recall Poland's ancient parliamentary tradition, and Poland's famous constitution of May 3, 1791.

That constitution, adopted peacefully by the Polish nation while their country was faced with a deadly threat to its freedom and independence, stands even today as a model of a liberal, parliamentary constitution.

These, then, are some of the contributions which people of Polish ancestry made to the progress of this Nation. They date back to the landing of the small group of Poles at Jamestown 350 years ago, and they have continued ever since. They include the efforts that our people spent in the new world, in fighting for American independence, and in developing the natural resources of this land. They also include the customs and traditions which they brought here, as well as the achievements of Poles on other continents which had a constructive impact on our own way of life.

We should be justly proud of these things. And we should also remember that the success of the United States has been due in no small measure to the farsighted, liberal policies that our Nation has followed in welcoming people, ideas, and capital from other lands.



Statue of Capt. John Smith at Jamestown

Three Hundred and Fiftieth Anniversary of Polish Pioneers in America

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

OF

HON. THOMAS J. LANE

of Massachusetts

In The House of Representatives

Mr. Lane. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to bring to the attention of the Congress, a little-known but important event in our history.

It was in October 1, 1608 that the first Polish pioneers came ashore at Jamestown, Va., more than 12 years before the **Mayflower** brought the Pilgrims to Massachusetts.

Capt. John Smith, founder of the Virginia settlement, had visited Poland before setting out for America. He was impressed by the skill, the industry, and the reliability of the Polish people. When the new colony at Jamestown was threatened with failure, he sent an urgent plea to England for Polish workers. They came, and established the first actual factory in the new world.

From that day to this, succeeding waves of Polish immigrants have taken part in the building of the United States.

Our development and progress as a free nation owes much to their character and ability. The spirit of these fine citizens is summed up in the old Polish saying: "A Pole shall never be a serf."

God-fearing and devoted to freedom, they have made contributions to our way of life that should be known and honored.

For this purpose I ask unanimous consent to insert in the Congressional Record the illuminating document titled "Americans From Poland" that was originally published by the Polish Women's Alliance of America.

It will be a well-merited recognition of the 350th anniversary commemorating the arrival of the Polish pioneers in America:

Americans From Poland *

The story of immigrants in America—one of the greatest stories ever written—shows how the many people of many lands helped build the greatest nation on earth. It is mainly a chronicle of common people, common but honorable, and

always dedicated to the principle that man was created by the Almighty to be free.

Perhaps one of the most interesting chapters in this great chronicle of America's immigrants is to be written about those who have migrated here from Poland. For from the very first days of this rich nation's struggle for independence and progress, the Poles have left their names imprinted on the indelible sands of time.

Polish Pioneers

It is impossible to enumerate all of the nameless and fearless Polish pioneers who came to America, toiling endlessly, clearing away forests, laboring the virgin soil, withstanding brutal Indian attacks and massacres, struggling and praying that their efforts could in part contribute to a rebirth of faith in the dignity of man on these barren shores of a new land in the Western Hemisphere.

Yes, among the millions of pages of American history written by the great—and not so great—the dauntless spirit of Polish immigrants can always be found. They came here to pave the way for the future economic and cultural development of the United States.

It would be difficult for us today to mention even all of those Poles in America who have risen above the anonymous crowd and left indelible traces of their activity in the United States. Time would not permit a chronicling of their events, for there are tens of thousands of dedicated Poles who during the past 350 years came here as fearless trappers, brave soldiers and great pioneers of culture.

This booklet is by no means intended to present the full story of Poles in America, for the full story has yet to be written. Instead, we hope through this simple booklet to arouse curiosity to whet the appetite of historians and to inspire among our students of history a rebirth of determination toward chronicling a more detailed story of Poles in America. It is a beautiful story—a rich story—a story of a gallant people whose brave deeds reach down into the very roots of American history.

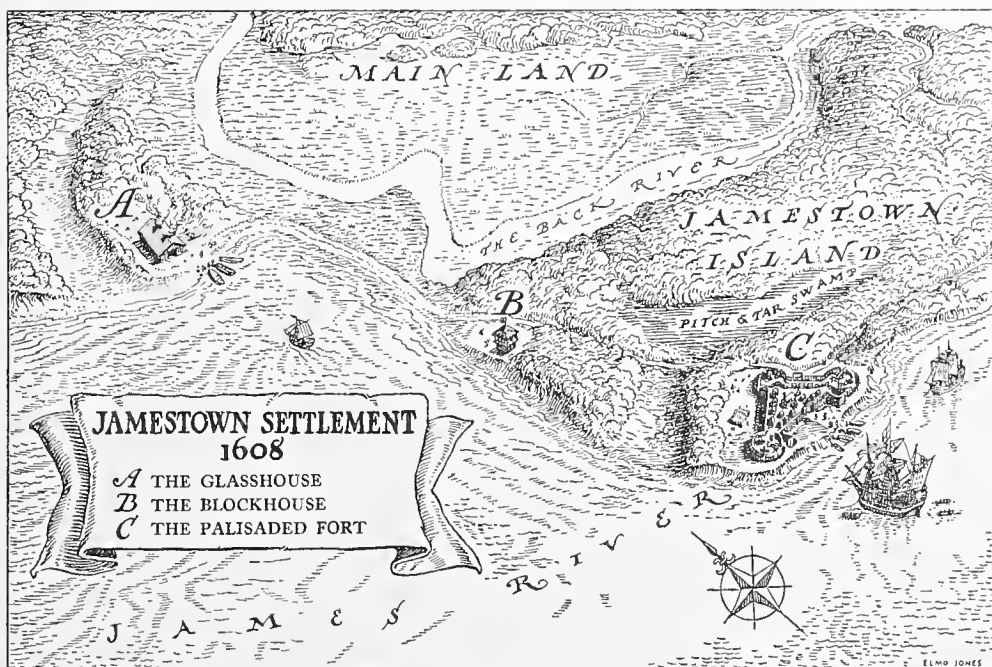
Better Understanding Of Our Heritage

We hope also that the young, and the old, will have a better understanding of their own heritage as Americans of Polish descent. It is our earnest hope that during this great jubilee year observing the 350th anniversary of the arrival of Poles in America, all Americans will better understand that their neighbors of Polish ancestry are not a new phenomenon in this country, that they are not a foreign element which only in recent years

* Prepared in a tableau form by Roman Pucinski, president of the Illinois Division, Polish American Congress.



Wilderness Road on Jamestown Island



has found expression, but that Poles have played an integral part in the very birth of these great United States and have contributed to their growth and progress for generations dating back to 1608.

If through these efforts we succeed in doing nothing more than getting all Americans to understand better the very stimulating history of Poles in America, we shall consider this jubilee year a huge success. We shall try—through the cold pages of history—to bring warmth into your hearts.

Jan z Kolna

Some of the writers who have tried to tell the story of Poles in America actually go back to 1475, 17 years before Christopher Columbus discovered America. That year one Jan z Kolna, a Polish seafarer and explorer in the service of the King of Denmark, was supposed to have bumped into Labrador and then sailed down to the mouth of the Delaware River. But scholars find no convincing proof of this extraordinary voyage, about which there is a persistent tradition in Polish lore. We will have to leave to more persistent research the task of proving more convincingly whether Jan z Kolna did in fact first discover America.

Our jubilee year begins with the first landing of Poles in Jamestown in 1608. For here we are on firm historical ground. The indisputable personal diaries of Capt. John Smith—founder of the Virginia settlement at the very birth of the 17th century—duly record the contributions of Polish immigrants in establishing the infant colony's first industry.

Capt. John Smith Asked For Polish Workers

An orphan and pretty much on his own since early childhood, Captain Smith had traveled extensively through Europe. During his many journeys, he had visited Poland and learned firsthand of the industrious nature of the Polish people. He had marveled at their skills in lumbering, wood carving, glass making, and the production of tar and pitch—a sticky substance made from the by-products of tar and used for roofing and waterproofing buildings. Shortly after his arrival here in 1607, with a group of vagabond gentlemen, wearing silk and shunning work, Captain Smith quickly realized that without skilled workers the newly formed colony could not long survive. Smith sent urgent pleas to his home office in England to send him workers, particularly Poles because there were large tar and pitch swamps within a stone's throw of the new Jamestown colony.

Smith recalled how industrious the Poles were. It is no surprise, then, that when he found himself in difficulty, he turned to the Poles.

Historic Date

The first group of Poles arrived October 1, 1608. As they made their way up the shore from the ships that brought them through a treacherous voyage from England, their voices rang out with song and joy—they had come to the promised land, where even the air had a new breath of freedom.

While some historians attempt to list the first group of Poles who landed in Jamestown by name, intensive research on our own has failed to confirm these names. It is for this reason, therefore, that we shall satisfy ourselves for the time being



Miss Phyllis Roberts, National Park Service receptionist-historian, shows part of the original glass furnace at Jamestown, Va., in 1608, beside a model of the main working furnace. The hard-fired object she holds is the hole through which the seventeenth-century glass blower poked his tube. The Glasshouse reconstruction is open to visitors during the Jamestown Festival.



Replica of Fort James

with Captain Smith's own references to the Polonians—as he called them—without resorting to their respective names.

Captain Smith lost no time in putting them to work, and he duly credits them with starting the first actual factory in America—a glass works near Jamestown, Va. Today, in that historic American shrine, stands a replica of this first American industry manned by the skillful Poles.

Poles Receive Credit

In his memories Captain Smith credits the Poles with saving the economy of the infant colony. But after he left the colony, the early English settlers regarded the Poles, and other European laborers as foreigners and inferiors. They were in the community, helping it to survive, but they were not considered of it.

For 12 years, while the settlement swung between success and failure, the Poles worked hard at their jobs, but they were barred from participating in civil affairs and had no political rights. While actually helping the young colony survive these Poles were in effect little better than serfs. This intolerable situation brought violent reactions from the Poles. For there is an old Polish saying which has survived as the very battle cry of Poles since the birth of their brave nation 1,000 years ago—"Polak nie Sluga"—"A Pole shall never be a serf." By 1619, their pride spilled over and the Poles, yearning for equality, went on strike—the first strike ever staged in the New World.

First Strike

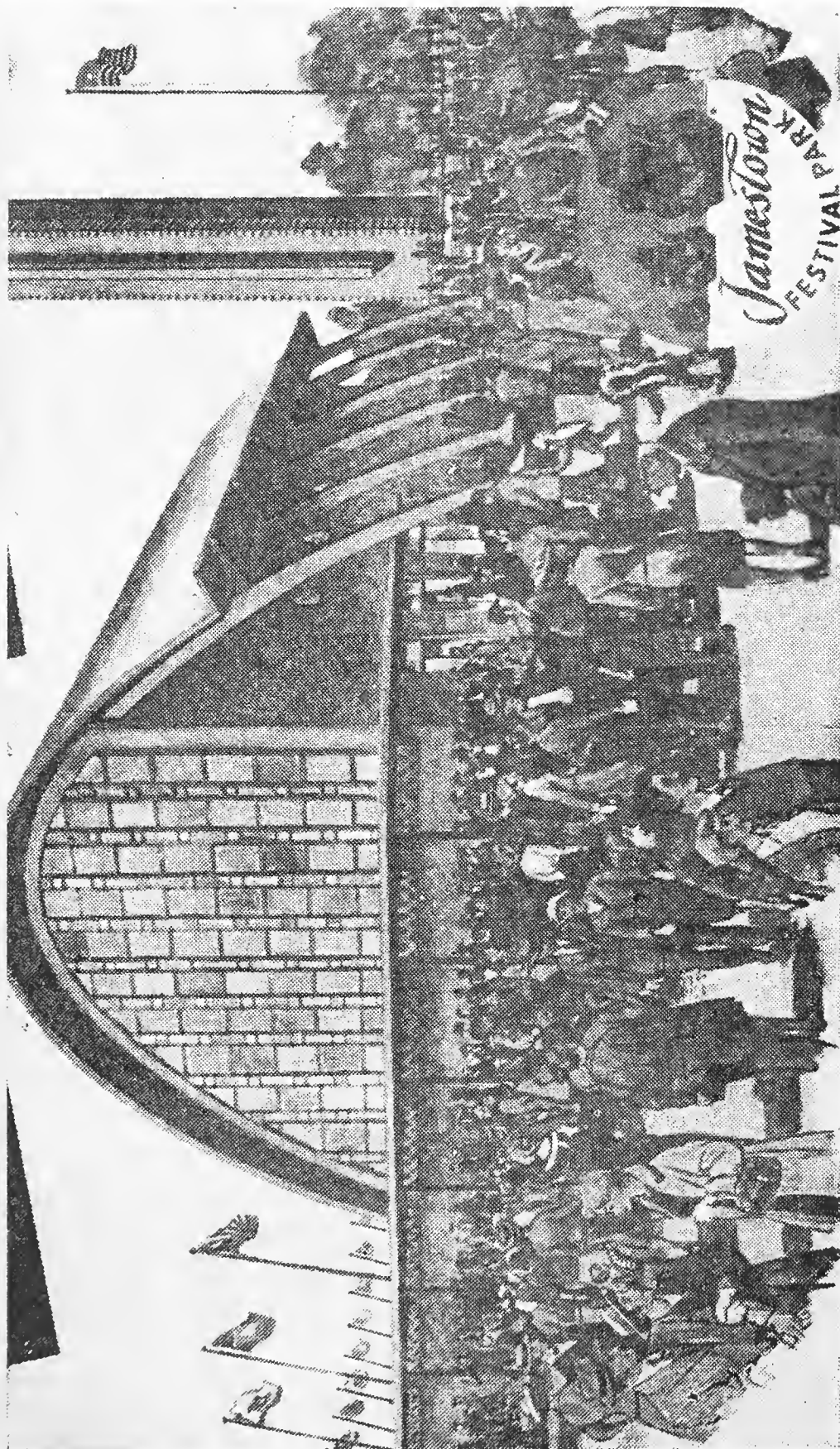
It is significant, perhaps more significant than would be immediately discernable, that this first strike was not staged by the Poles for economic gains. Instead, they demanded the right to vote, full equality with the others, and the right to

own property. In the tiny community, this was equivalent to a major rebellion. It was the first political upheaval in America, for the purpose of extending democratic rights to the common man. Here was the first manifestation that America shall be a heaven for the oppressed, a sanctuary for the free, and a bastion against the tyranny of serfdom.

Real Freedom

The future of the Virginia colony—and perhaps the future of America—swung on the outcome of this strike. We know too little yet about how the strike was handled but it is safe to assume that the leading people of Jamestown realized that the community could not survive very long without the good-will of their most skilled workers. The strike was quickly brought to a successful conclusion. The Poles' grievances were heeded by the first parliament in America, the House of Burgess in Jamestown. According to the contemporary record, "it was agreed that the Poles shall be enfranchised and made as free as any inhabitants there whatsoever." In order to perpetuate the Poles' techniques in making pitch, tar, and glass, it was further agreed that "some young men shall be put unto them to learn their skill and knowledge therein, for the benefit of the country hereafter."

Who, then, is to say today what course the newly born nation on the eastern shores of America would have taken if not for the gallant action of these determined Poles. We see from the record that the early colonists—the aristocracy which first came here with Captain Smith—had every intention of recreating in America the very system of vested gentry and castes which the common man had left Europe to escape. It cannot be emphasized too strongly that perhaps the very



Jamestown Park — Place of Our Observance

essence of our democratic system, as we in America know it today, may never have been realized if not for the dogged determination of these early Polish immigrants. No measure of praise or glory can adequately describe their unselfish contribution to this Nation's early beginnings, for it was these Poles who, with their bare hands and stubborn determination laid the very foundations on which freedom for all men was born in America.

In the middle of the 17th century, perhaps after hearing how valuable the Poles were to the British colony in Virginia, the Dutch settlers of New Amsterdam persuaded others to come here from Poland to help them grow food and fight the British of New England. These immigrants were also very hardy, industrious, effective; Gov. Peter Stuyvesant, of New Holland, was quite pleased with them.

First Academy Founded By Pole

In 1659, a Polish scholar, Dr. Alexander Kurcysz came to New Amsterdam on the Hollander's invitation and founded an academy, the first institution of higher learning in what is now New York City. In the history of American education, he is now known as Dr. Alexander Curtius.

By 1662, an exiled Polish nobleman named Albert Zaborowski—later known as Zabriski—came to New Amsterdam. He later moved across the Hudson River to New Jersey where he became one of the first judges of the State and subsequently the owner of considerable land holdings along the Passaic River. Today, the multi-billion-dollar industrial centers of New Jersey stand on land developed by Zaborowski. Today, also, some of the elite families of the eastern seaboard—ranking high on the list of society—number him among their ancestors.

Poles also settled in the Delaware Valley as early as 1650. Pennsylvania archives show them to have been a part of that colony in the days of its founder, William Penn. There was a thin trickle of Poles into Pennsylvania and Virginia for the next 100 years.

The whole world knows the legendary story of America's famous explorer, Daniel Boone. Every American child has seen movies and television shows relating his heroic exploits. But how many of these same American youngsters know that a Polish immigrant played perhaps the most important part in Boone's future fame?

John Anthony Sadowski

In 1736, John Anthony Sadowski pushed into the wilderness beyond the Allegheny Mountains. Driven by a native curiosity, Sadowski's restless spirit would give him no peace until he could discover for himself what lies beyond the towering mountains. Braving the Indians and wild beasts which roamed throughout this virgin territory—never yet visited by white men—Sadowski pushed westward. He established an outpost on the Ohio River which a century later became

one of America's great industrial towns—Sandusky, Ohio, for that is how the great name of Sadowski had been changed on English-speaking American tongues.

Sadowski was killed by the Indians in Virginia. Then his son, John, and particularly his son Jacob, carried on the pioneering tradition of their father and distinguished themselves as aides to Daniel Boone in the settling of Kentucky. They were co-founders with Boone of Harrodsburgh, the oldest town in Kentucky. There is a passage about their immeasurable help to Boone in Theodore Roosevelt's book: "The Winning of the West."

Yes, history has played a cruel trick on the Sadowski family by omitting their names from the illustrious pinnacle it has awarded Boone and other American explorers.

And there were many other Polish explorers who distinguished themselves—time and again—in America's infant days.

First Reliable Map

The first reliable map of the coast of New England—a notable and extremely useful document in its time—was drawn by a Polish surveyor, Karol Blaszkiewicz.

Somewhere in the South, a man named Paul Mostowski, of Warsaw, tried unsuccessfully in 1776 to found a New Poland. Scarcely anything is known of this attempt; most likely the rebuffs and obstacles which he had to overcome as a would-be Colonist in the New World were too much for him. We mention this fact only because it indicates there must have been a sizable number of Poles in America at that time.

They played a considerable role during America's Revolutionary period.

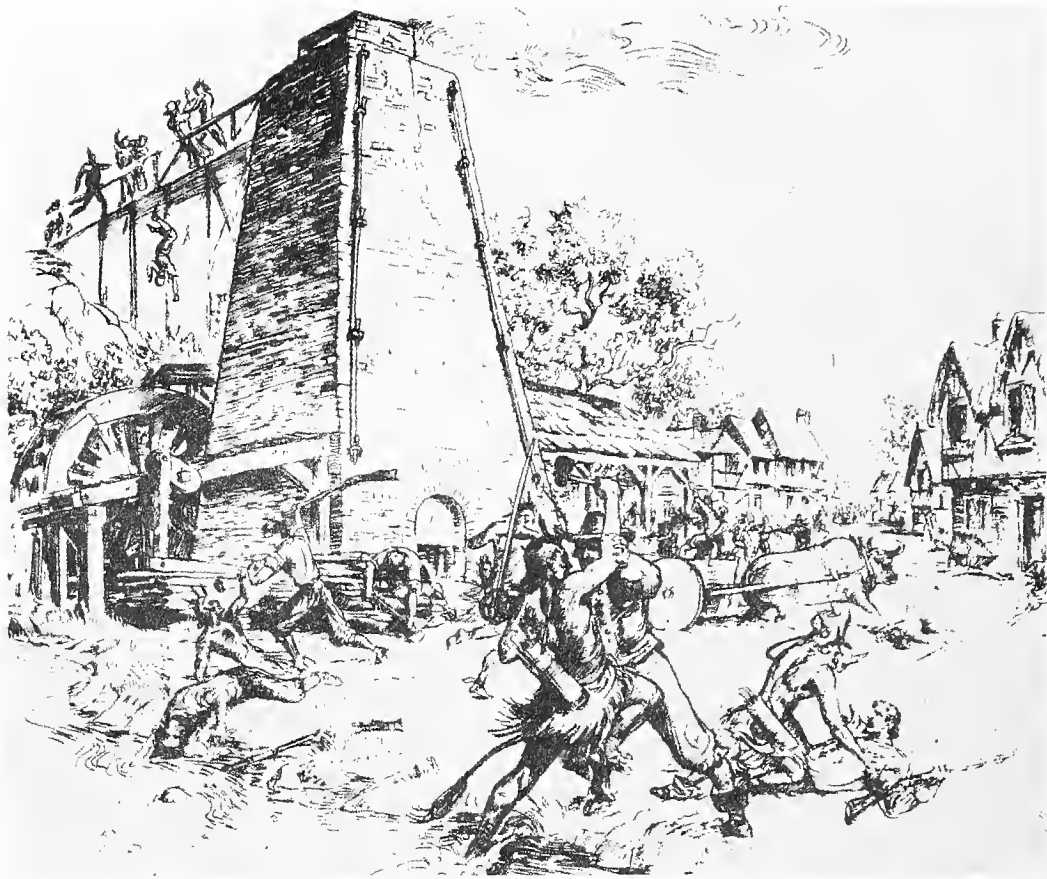
The shot at Bunker Hill must have been heard around the world for soldiers and fighters for liberty came from several foreign countries to the aid of the embattled revolutionaries of the 13 colonies.

Kosciuszko: Father Of American Artillery

A young Polish engineer, Thaddeus Kosciuszko, was among the first to arrive and offer his services to General Washington. "What can you do?" asked the American Commander. "Try me," said Kosciuszko.

The victory at Saratoga was credited to plans which Kosciuszko had worked out. He fortified Fort Ticonderoga and West Point. He was soon made a brigadier general and chief of engineers, but he also excelled in other branches of the military art; in fact, he earned the title "The Father of American Artillery." His friend, Thomas Jefferson, then Secretary of State, said: "I see Kosciuszko often. He is the purest son of liberty which extends to all not alone the rich."

Kosciuszko's superior officer, General Gates, considered him "the only pure republican. He is without any equivocation on the subject of freedom."



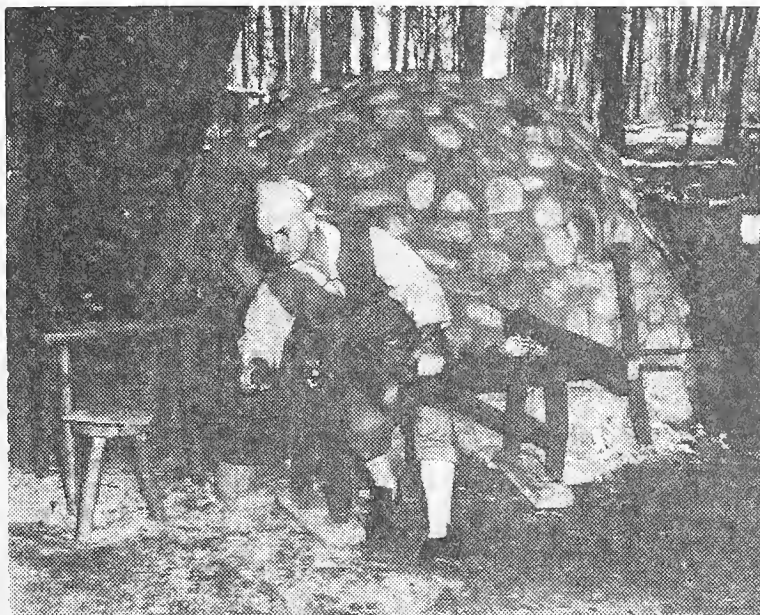
The Indian Massacre At Falling Creek, March 22, 1622

Conjectural sketch



Making Potash at Jamestown—About 1608

Conjectural sketch



Glass Blower At Work In Reconstructed Shop

Casimir Pulaski: Hero Of Two Continents

In July 1777, another determined son of Poland arrived at Washington's headquarters with a letter of introduction from Benjamin Franklin, who represented the year-old United States of America in Paris. This handsome Pole was Count Casimir Pulaski, a young Polish nobleman essentially aristocratic in manner and lacking Kosciuszko's genuinely democratic character and personality. Franklin described Pulaski as an officer "famous throughout Europe, for his defense of the liberties of his country." Rising to the rank of general, during the next 2 years—crucial ones in the history of the American Revolution—Pulaski participated with distinction in the Battles of Brandywine, Warren Tavern, Germantown, Trenton, and Haddonfield near Camden. Then he organized his own Polish Legion, which fought at Little Egg Harbor and Charleston. This dedicated apostle of freedom—the hero of two continents—whose very name threw terror into the hearts of tyrants—was mortally wounded at Savannah on October 9, 1779. He died 3 days later.

There were thousands killed during the running battles of the American Revolution—all dedicated to the fundamentals of freedom. But the death of Pulaski drove a deep void into the ranks of the American Revolutionists. Historians agree Pulaski had an uncanny genius for inspiring men into battles against hopeless odds. It was indeed this kind of battle at Savannah that brought death to Pulaski. But he died as he wished to die—in a running battle for freedom. Pulaski was buried with the highest honors a grateful but struggling nation would bestow upon one of its sons of liberty. It is little wonder that thereafter, Americans everywhere have showered him with trib-

ute which is well known to all of us here. Sprinkled liberally throughout the map of America are villages and towns, skyways and byways, monuments and plaques, dedicated to this gallant warrior.

Highest Praise From General Washington

Of both these great Polish warriors, Kosciuszko and Pulaski, General George Washington repeatedly wrote the highest words of praise to the Continental Congress. For through their unselfish contributions, they had helped lay the foundations which today make the United States a symbol of freedom and dignity to mankind throughout the world.

Kosciuszko, perhaps more so than Pulaski, laid down the first principle of equality in America when he instructed Thomas Jefferson to prepare a will in which the Polish warrior instructed that all of his assets in this country—and they were sizable—were to be used for the erection of an institution of higher learning for the American Negro. To this day, the first educational institution built with Kosciuszko's money for American Negroes stands in New Jersey. It would be wise for those who might be tempted to bemoan so-called intolerance among Americans of Polish descent to ponder this historical fact.

Migration To America

With the end of the American Revolution, a beleaguered but determined America began building a new continent which would soon attract thousands of refugees seeking freedom. They came here to work and build—and among them again were the Poles. They saw in the American Constitution a document written by honorable men—a document filled with hope and protection for the dignity of man—a document which was to endure time and guide a growing nation on a path



Williamsburg Today

of development never before witnessed by man. In contrast to the oppression and persecution which millions were suffering in Europe, America was the dream of the entire world. It is no wonder then, that in this great contingent of oppressed people seeking freedom were also the Poles. The Napoleonic Wars, the uprising throughout the European Continent, Poland's own ill-fated attempts at freedom, were all a contributing factor for the ever-increasing migration of Poles to America . . . for here truly was the promised land.

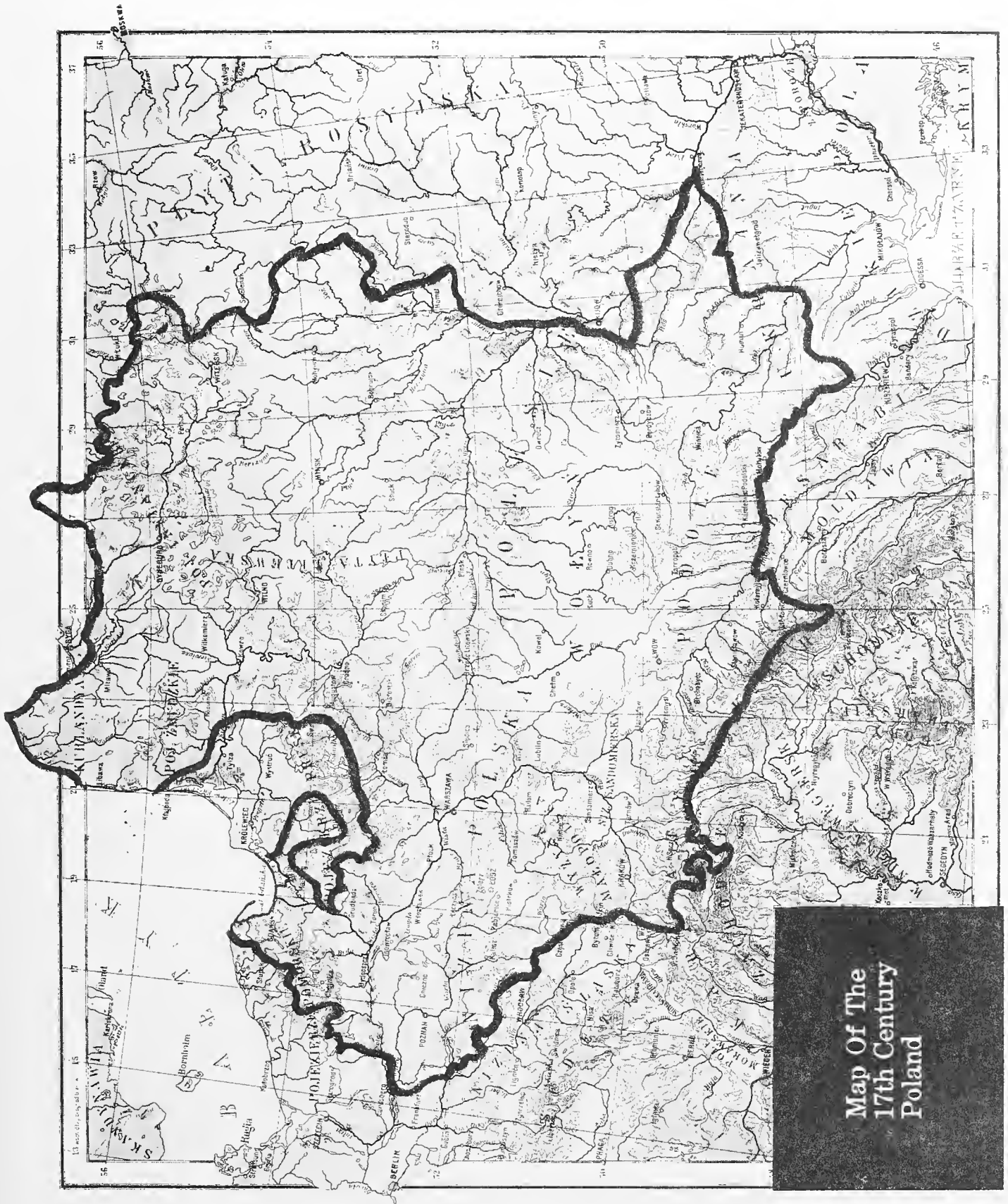
First Polish Community: Panna Maria, Tex.

In 1854, the first authentic and wholly organized Polish community was established in America when Father Moczygeba and his followers—a group of peasants from Silesia—arrived on the shores of Texas. It was indeed an inspiring sight as this dedicated son of the cloth—an apostle of Christ—led his ill-clothed and nearly famished group of Poles into the sunny but dusty valley of Texas to found Panna Maria— which only a few years ago observed its 100th anniversary. Father Moczygeba and his followers brought with them crudely packed clothing, bedding, carpenter tools, books and yes—the carillon from their church in Poland. It was here in the heart of Texas—some 85 miles southeast of San Antonio—that Father Moczygeba and his colony settled and built the first Polish Roman Catholic church in America. To these hearty pioneers who braved famine and rolling seas went the thanks of a grateful Amer-

ica—anxious to see her turbulent Southwest settled and developed. Father Moczygeba's brave expedition served as an inspiration to thousands of Americans in eastern States who feared migration to the West because of terrifying attacks by raiding Mexican armies. This determined Polish priest—who had seen his religious teachings being crushed by the Prussians in his native Poland—pioneered a new chapter of heroism not only among the clergy but among oppressed people all over the world.

Civil War

For almost 75 years after the American Revolution, America's valiant effort to weld into one nation people of many political outlooks, religious beliefs, and economic standarts underwent a series of crucial tests until 1861, when terror struck the entire Nation; the South clashed with the North over the question of freedom for the American Negro. In the darkest moment of her brief but glorious history, America teetered on the verge of self-destruction. The Civil War struck with all of its fury, pitting brother against brother, man against man, and ideology against ideology. A solemn but dedicated President stubbornly resisted all efforts at compromise, for the principle of equality burned too deeply in Abraham Lincoln's heart to allow for compromise. In his many inspiring messages, one theme flowed from the beleaguered President's lips: America cannot long endure half free and half slave. It was a principle which had inspired Poles through decades of Po-



Map Of The
17th Century
Poland

Smith
taketh the
king of
Paspapeigh
prisoner

Who found he was gon[e]; yet to crosse his returne to
~~Paspapeigh, Captain Smith immediately dispatched a shot~~
And then returning but from the glasse-house
alone, hee incountred the King of *Paspapeigh*, a most
strong stout Salvage; whose perswasions not being able
to perswade him to his ambush, seeing him only armed
but with a fauchion, attempted to haue shot him. But
the President prevented his shot [81] by grappling with
him; and the Salvage as well prevented him from drawing
his fauchion, and perforce bore him into the river to haue
drowned him. Long they struggled in the water, from
whence the king perceiving two of the Poles vpon the
sandes, would haue fled: but the President held him by
the haire and throat til the Poles came in. Then seeing
howe pittifully the poore Salvage begged his life, they con-
ducted him prisoner to the fort.

Page 150—"The Proceedings of English Colonie in Virginia."

land's partitions and suppressions by her warring neighbors. Lincoln's inspiring words fired the imagination of freedom-loving men throughout the world. It is little wonder, then, that in America's darkest moment of history, when survival hung in the balance, that thousands of Polish immigrants flocked to President Lincoln's tragic appeal for help.

While Kosciuszko and Pulaski have won perhaps the widest acclaim in America for their efforts in behalf of this Nation's fight for freedom, two other Polish generals—seldom if ever mentioned in history books—distinguished themselves in this country's tragic struggle for survival. We hope that history will correct this injustice and ultimately place them among the ranks of America's great sons.

General Krzyzanowski Hero Of Civil War

Wladimir Krzyzanowski came to America in the 1850's and completed his engineering studies here. He assisted in the construction of three railroads in the Middle West, then settled down as a businessman in Washington. At the outbreak of the Civil War he joined the Union forces organizing a militia company which included many other Poles and quickly expanded into a regiment under his command. He was made a colonel. Known as the Polish Legion the outfit distinguished itself in several battles, among them those of Cross Keys and Bull Run. President Lincoln appointed Krzyzanowski brigadier general but the Senate did not immediately confirm the appointment because none of the Senators was able to pronounce his name. Krzyzanowski's reputation as a leader and a fighter increased after the Battle of Chancellorsville and Gettysburg and in minor battles in Tennessee. Consistently democratic, sharing danger, hunger, and fatigue, he was beloved by the Legionnaires who at the end of the war gave him a beautiful sword with an affectionate inscription. Even the Confederates liked him. When he left the occupation garrison at

Bridgeport, Tenn., the residents bade him farewell with regret.

Pole—First Governor Of Alaska

After the Civil War, Krzyzanowski became the first American Governor of Alaska. He died in 1887. His grave, in Brooklyn, was long neglected but in 1937 his remains were transferred to Arlington Cemetery. President Roosevelt, speaking at the ceremony, expressed beautifully the depth of feelings, linking together Poland and America. The President said:

"Throughout centuries and storms, no matter if the sun was shining or obscured by temporary clouds, Poland forever thought to carry high the light of liberty. As we treasure in common the same idea of liberty, our friendship with Poland was longstanding and uninterrupted. It is an honor and privilege to bear witness how the United States is indebted to people of Polish blood. We acknowledge the merit of the fearless heroes, fighting for liberty, of Kosciuszko and Pulaski, whose very names became the watchwords of freedom. General Krzyzanowski today joins their immortal ranks."

General Karge Of Union Army

Joseph Karge was another Pole who rose to the rank of general in the Union army. He made a name for himself in operations against "Stonewall" Jackson in Virginia and in the defense of Washington. Two serious wounds received in 1862 almost compelled him to retire, but he saw the war through. Toward the end he was assigned to cope with guerillas in the South. After the war he was given command of a cavalry unit in Nevada

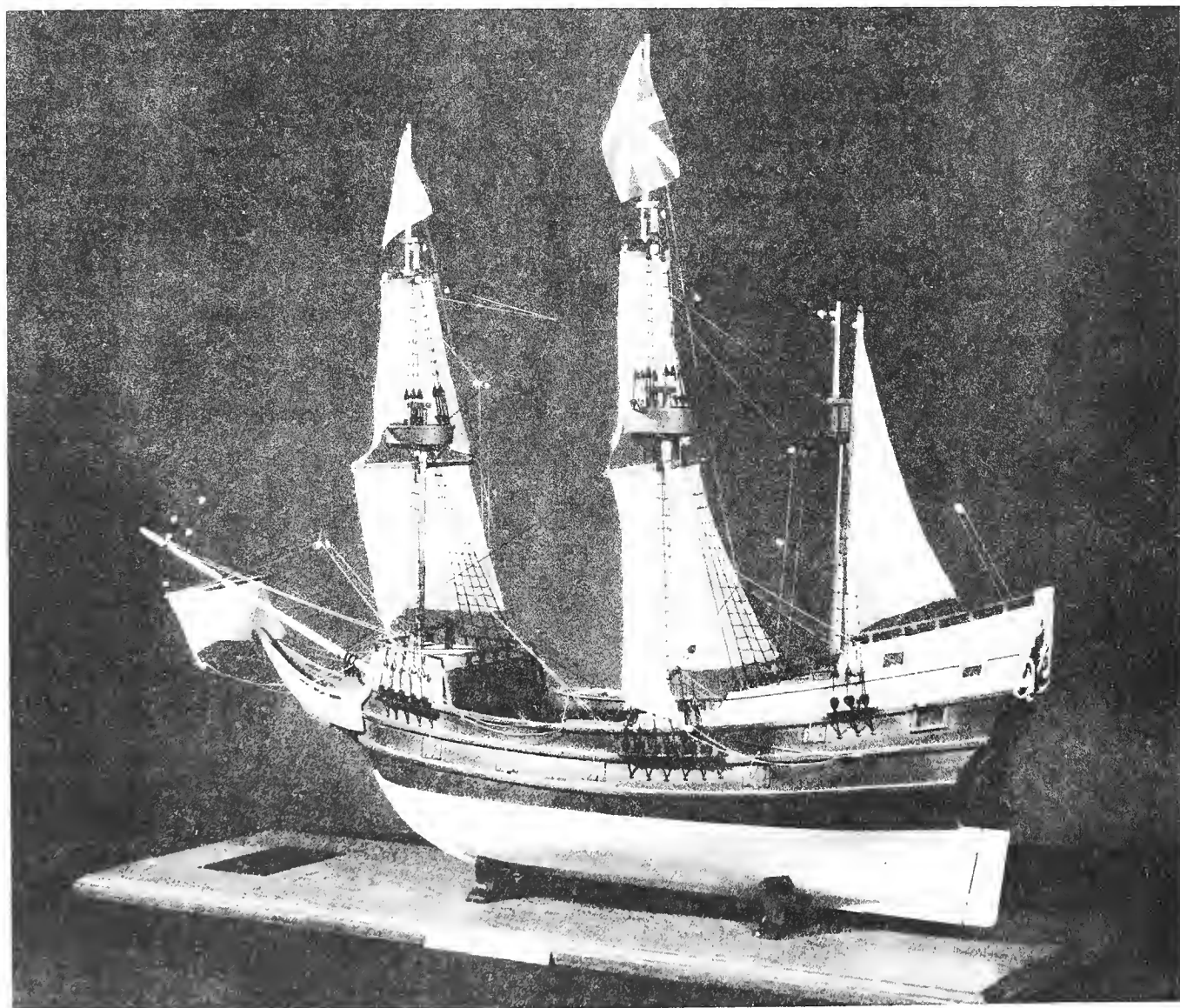
Krzyzanowski and Karge were part of the large Polish immigration from German, Austrian and Russian partitioned Poland that began after the ill-fated uprisings—against the rule of the three most powerful emperors in Europe. The several thousand Polish refugees who came to the United

States during this period were almost exclusively revolutionists seeking escape from imprisonment or death.

Land Of Promise

The second period, beginning in the seventies, was mostly a matter of relatives following the refugees, then of the relatives' kin coming to join their families in the land of promise. For a while a good many people in countries like Poland really believed that the streets in America were paved with gold. Polish immigration increased annually, until its peak in the year 1912-13 when nearly 175,000 Poles were admitted to the United States.

During the big migration at the turn of the century, the new arrivals in America were astonished that Polish spirit and culture virtually flowed in American streets. In 1893—during the Columbian Exposition in Chicago—the Polish Day held at the exposition grounds attracted 100,000 people. Polish language newspapers flourished, services were being held in the Polish language in many churches and practically every organization had a Polish choral or dance group among its members. To many of the new Polish immigrants America looked like a segment of their native Poland.



Replica of a 17th Century Sailer.—Mariners' Museum, Newport News, Va.

The Poles Among Us

By Albert Q. Maisel

(Reprinted from The Reader's Digest)

Barely a year after it was founded, England's first settlement in America stood on the verge of collapse. Jamestown had a magnificent leader in the tall young soldier, Capt. John Smith; but most of the colonists sent out with him were "gentlemen adventurers"—no match for the tough job they faced in the wilderness. Soon Smith was beseeching his London backers to "send but 30 carpenters, blacksmiths and masons rather than a thousand such as we have here."

On September 25, 1608, a small ship sailed up the James River bearing six broad-backed artisans. Axes in hand, they followed Smith into the woods and set about making a clearing. Within three weeks they had a roaring fire going under a glass furnace, the first factory in the English Colonies in America. They tapped the pine trees and distilled tar and pitch. They set up a soap works and erected a saw mill. Presently, goaded by their example, the entire settlement was hard at work.

Surprisingly, this handful to whom Smith later gave credit for saving the colony—thus insuring that America would develop as an English-speaking nation—were not Englishmen at all. Their names were—Michal Lowicki, Zbigniew Stefanski, Jur Mata, Jan Bogdan, Karol Zrenica, and Stanislaw Sadowski—and they landed in America 12 years before the **Mayflower**.

A few years later these earliest Polish immigrants set another precedent. Virginia's new governor had authorized the election of the first legislative body in America, but only natives of England were to be allowed to vote. Indignantly, the Poles laid down their tools until they were granted full equality. In this, America's first strike—staged not for economic gains but to establish the principle of universal suffrage—the all-essential craftsmen scored a quick and total victory.

Today the Poles among us—and their American-born descendants—total six million. Yet their essential character had never changed. Fleeing from impoverishment and oppression, most Polish immigrants have come to America endowed with two precious possessions: an astounding capacity for hard work, and a flaming love for the freedom denied them in their homeland.

Among the early Americans of Polish stock, men outnumbered women ten to one. Many married the daughters of Dutch or English families, and in time their native tongue and customs were largely forgotten. But their names—though often

simplified for the convenience of their neighbors—were proudly perpetuated. Typical was the Indian trader, Jan Antoni Sadowski, whose name—because it sounded that way to Americans—was soon turned to Jonathan Sandusky. In 1735 he pushed through the Alleghenies, 200 miles beyond the nearest English settlement, and set up a trading post near the western end of Lake Erie where the city of Sandusky now stands.

In the American Revolution the Poles, with hardly an exception joined the fight for independence. At least a thousand names of unmistakably Polish origin can be identified in the muster rolls of the Continental Army. The achievements of these Poles who were already Americans have been largely overshadowed, however, by the fame of two spectacular young volunteers from abroad, Tadeusz Kościuszko and Casimir Pulaski. Both had been exiled from Poland for resisting the dismemberment of their country by Russia, Prussia and Austria. With a love of liberty that knew no national borders, they saw America's struggle as their own.

Even before the Declaration of Independence was signed, Kościuszko—the first foreign officer to arrive here—offered his services to General Washington. Commissioned a Colonel of Engineers in October, 1776, he erected soon thereafter the breastworks at Saratoga from which Burgoyne was battered into surrender.

Jefferson hailed him as "the purest son of liberty I have ever known." Congress voted him a grant of 500 acres and a cash award of over \$12,000. But Kościuszko never used these funds. As he boarded a ship for Europe, he handed Jefferson his will, directing that his estate be used to purchase Negro slaves and give them their liberty.

Pulaski fled into exile only after he had held the czar's armies at bay for four bitter years. When he offered both his services and his sizable fortune to America, he did not wait for official recognition. He was heading a troop of cavalry at the time of Washington's Brandywine retreat and was credited with saving much of the Army by his slashing rearguard raids. Four days after the battle, Congress hurriedly voted him a generalship.

During the winter at Valley Forge, Pulaski repeatedly led raids through the British lines, returning with captured food and supplies. Then he begged permission to form the independent cavalry corps that became known as the Pulaski Legion, and spent \$16,000 of his own funds to equip it. His career was ended at Savannah,



where, charging the enemy, he was killed by grapeshot.

Through all the years that followed, America opened its gates and its heart to Polish Patriots. Most of these were young members of the educated classes who came here with professional or artistic training. Thus our arts were enriched by such great musicians as Leopold Stokowski, Arthur Rodzinski, Joseph Hoffman; opera stars Marcella Sembrich Kochańska and Jan Kiepura; the Shakespearean actress Helena Modjeska (Modrzejewska) and the silent-movie star Pola Negri. Among scientists were the world-famed anthropologist Bronislaw Malinowski; the University of Michigan's pioneer Professor of Aeronautics Felix Pawlowski and its equally distinguished mathematician, Prof. Louis Karpinski; the engineer Ralph Modjeski, who built the spectacular eight-mile bridge between San Francisco and Oakland and more than a score of other great bridges.

From 1880 onward, however, the majority of Polish immigrants were of a different degree. At that time, Poland, partitioned among the great powers, was ruled with ruthless oppression. Peasants saw their sons conscripted into the German, Russian and Austrian armies. Rapidly growing population condemned many to work for starvation wages as laborers on the big estates. Repeated crop failures brought misery to those who still owned a few acres.

So, first by dozens and later by the tens of thousands, the young men of Poland's peasant villages set out for America. From an insignificant 30,000 in 1870, our Polish population grew to over one million in 1900. By 1910, 875,000 more had arrived. The tide reached its crest in 1912, when nearly 175,000 came in a single year.

Soon Poles formed a large segment of the working force wherever heavy industry had need for their sturdy muscles. In Chicago they became meat-packers; in Detroit, engine-block casters; in Buffalo and Pittsburgh, they worked the Bessemer converters and the booming mills; in Scranton and Wilkes Barre they replaced the Irish and the Welsh who had had enough of coal-mining.

Deeply devoted to their religion, they began to attend the existing Roman Catholic churches wherever they settled. But they missed the elaborate pageantry of their village churches in Poland. After some resistance, the right to set up their own churches, manned by Polish priests and following Polish customs, was granted to them. Today there are more than 900 such parishes.

It became the goal of almost every Polish family to live within walking distance of its own church, around which all sorts of social activities centered. Thus, in many cities, densely populated Polish neighborhoods developed. But these were seldom slum areas. Unable to express their peasant love

for the land in any other way, Polish industrial workers scrimped and saved to buy homes of their own with at least a back yard in which to raise vegetables. In Bayonne, N. J., Americans of Polish stock own 60 per cent of all the real property. And Hamtramck, Michigan—the most solidly Polish city in America—has the highest ratio of home owners in the nation.

Lack of education condemned most of the immigrant generation to work all their lives in humble, heavy-labor jobs. Yet they never ceased to think of America as the Land of Opportunity. And, in the tremendous advances their children have made here, they found full vindication for that belief.

A good measure of their progress can be found in the field of sports. Until 1915 only a few Polish Americans stood out as athletes; among them, Frank Piekarski, who made the All-America Football Team in 1904, and Stanley Ketchel (originally Stanislaus Kiecal) who won the middleweight boxing title in 1907. Today, in baseball alone, the list of Polish-American stars, is impressively long. Stan Musial, who gets \$80,000 a year from the St. Louis Cardinals, has been batting champion of his league six times. Ted Kluszewski hit 49 homers in 1956 for Cincinnati to earn himself a \$50,000 contract. Then there are Ed Lopat, Joe Collins, Jim Konstanty, Ray Jablonski, Bill Mazeroski, Ted Kazanski, Ray Semproch, Rip Repulski, Steve Bilko, Tony Kubek, Ray Narleski, Bill Skowron and more than 20 others.

In college football, All-American honors have been pinned on one or more Americans of Polish descent in almost every year since 1927. At one point the "Fighting Irish" of Notre Dame had so many boys with Polish names on their squad that Knute Rockne was asked how he picked his players. "It's a cinch—he answered with a grin. "When I can't pronounce 'em, they're good." Today there are about 300 Polish-Americans on major college teams.

In recent years Poles have moved to the top in other sports. In golf there are Ted Kroll, Bob Toski and the spectacular Ed Furgol, who, despite a withered arm, won the 1956 National Open Championship. Frank Parker ranked among the top ten in tennis for more than 15 years. Stella Walsh, one of our greatest all-around woman athletes, has captured 41 National AAU championships and set 65 world and national track records.

Comparatively few among the immigrant generation from Poland ever entered the world of business, except to open small stores that relied on the trade of their fellow immigrants. Similarly, today, most of the young Polish-Americans who have attended our universities have chosen to enter the professions rather than business. There are now, for example, about 5,000 American phy-



Buildings such as this were used by the pioneers



The four glass furnaces located by archeological excavation on Glasshouse Point.

sicians of Polish descent, including such distinguished men as Dr. Thaddeus Danowski, Professor of Research Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh; Dr. Joseph Adamkiewicz, Assistant Clinical Professor of Surgery at Marquette University; Lt. Col. Edwin Pulaski, formerly chief assistant surgeon at Walter Reed Hospital.

The last decade has seen the rise of a whole crop of young Polish-American physicists and engineers, foremost among whom is the 45-year old Emil J. Konopinski, who has been credited with much of the theoretical work that made possible the development of the H-bomb. Other atomic physicists include Dr. Gerald Pawlicki of the Oak Ridge National Laboratory; Dr. Bruno J. Zwolinski of the National Science Foundation; and Dr. Roman Smoluchowski, Professor of Physics and Metallurgical Engineering at Carnegie Institute of Technology. In engineering, the firm of Piasecki Helicopter Corp. is pioneering in helicopter development.

Coming from lands where the opinions of Poles—and particularly of peasants—were never consulted, the immigrants at first had no experience to guide them in American politics. But their horizons have broadened remarkably. Since 1932 the membership of the U. S. House of Representatives has included from 10 to 12 Congressmen of Polish stock. John Dingell, with 20 years of seniority, is a member of the powerful Ways and Means Committee. Alfred Sieminski is now serving his third term in Congress as a member of the Appropriations Committee. The election of Edmund S. Muskie as Governor of Maine last fall indicates that non-Polish voters will readily support a strong candidate without regard for his ancestry.

In the defense of America, recent generations of Polish-Americans have played as devoted a role as did their predecessors in Revolutionary days. When we entered World War I the astounding total of 40,000 Polish names was on the roll of the first 100,000 to enlist. Before that conflict ended, 300,000 Polish-Americans served. In World War II more than 900,000 served in the Armed Forces.

The conflict returned Poland's history to an old and dismal course. Invaded and ravaged, first by Germany, then by Russia, its people emerged from the struggle to find themselves behind the Iron Curtain with Soviet troops in occupation and Communists in full control. Once again America resumed its traditional role as a haven for exiled Poles. Since 1945 nearly 180,000 have been admitted here under the various refugee relief acts.

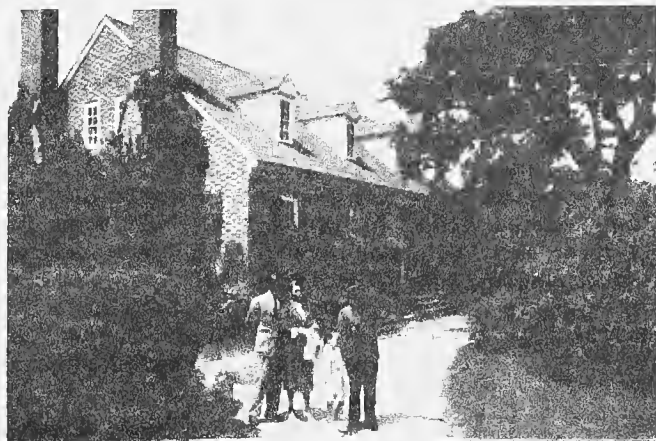
Through recent years our culture has been enriched by the skills and talents of such Polish exiles as Florian Znaniecki, Professor Emeritus of Sociology at the University of Illinois; Dr.

Hilary Koprowski, Assistant Director of Virus Research at Lederic Laboratories; historians Oscar Halecki of Fordham and Jan Karski of Georgetown; the arctic explorer Henry Arctowski, formerly at the astrophysical observatory of the Smithsonian Institution—and hundreds of others.

For Americans of Polish birth, the current condition of Poland poses a particularly heart-rending dilemma. Everything in their tradition and background leads them to reject Communism. Yet ties of sympathy and family relationship bind them closely to the Polish people. They resolve the dilemma by drawing a careful distinction between the Poles and the Communist government that controls them. Through more than 100,000 food packages a month, they try to relieve the suffering of their relatives in the old country. But at the same time, in every letter they send, they seek to keep alive the thirst for Polish freedom.

Their primary interest, however, lies in America. As they view Poland's present travail, they value all the more highly the freedom, the opportunity and the human dignity that has become their American birthright.

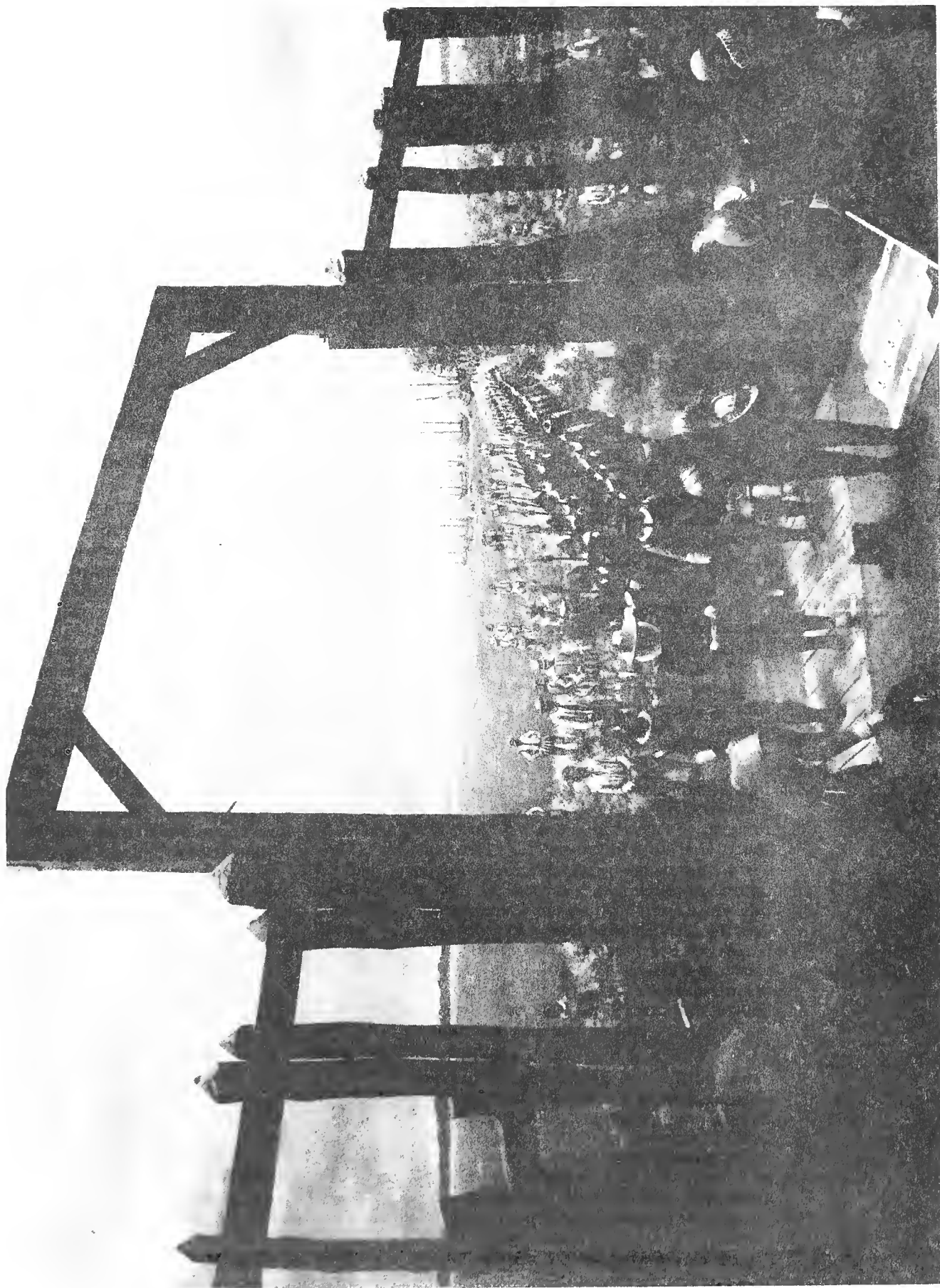
WILLIAMSBURG



"Wakefield"—George Washington Birthplace National Monument. Reconstructed house where Washington was born. Family cemetery contains graves of his grandfather and great-grandfather.

We may well call attention of the world to our achievements of three and a half centuries, and ask all who come at our invitation to share with us the joy and the inspiration of the occasion.. The great heritage that is ours as Virginians requires us to properly commemorate this anniversary and report on our stewardship of the historic shrines in which the American people feel a sense of proprietorship.

THOMAS B. STANLEY,
Former Governor of Virginia



Diorama showing the arrival of lord Delaware at Jamestown.

Commemoration Day in Pennsylvania

(Reprinted from The Scrantonian)

Harrisburg, Pa.—Governor George M. Leader has issued a proclamation calling upon the citizens of Pennsylvania to observe October 1 “as a day of commemoration of the 350th anniversary of the arrival of the first Polish pioneers in America, in recognition of the many valuable services performed for our Nation by her citizens of Polish descent.”

The ceremony took place in the Capitol Building with representatives from various Polish-American organizations throughout the State present.

Henry J. Dende, president of the Polish American Congress, Lackawanna County, headed the Northeastern Pennsylvania delegation.

On Sunday, Sept. 28, Americans of Polish descent will commemorate the 350th anniversary at commemorative exercises to be held in the pavilion of Jamestown Festival Park, Jamestown, Va. A large delegation from Lackawanna County is expected to attend the festivities which are being sponsored by the national committee of the Polish American Congress.

Polish artisans—glass blowers, pitch, tar, potash and clapboard makers landed in Jamestown in October, 1608. At first there were only five of them, but soon their number grew to 50.

Historians agree that the Polish pioneers were instrumental in saving Jamestown colony from a total failure, built the New World's first factory—the historic Glass House, manufactured the first export goods and struck the first effective blow for civic liberties.

Jamestown was founded in 1607, two years before this historical event. History has recorded that the first settlers were primarily a band of gentlemen adventurers lured here by the myth that the shores of the New World were strewn with gold.

It took the example of the Polish glass makers to demonstrate to the colonists that the treasures of Virginia were in the soil, not nuggets to be had by picking.

There was ample wealth, but it required strong arms, stout hearts and technical knowledge to convert it into coin.

Only 32 of the original band of 100 settled survived that first two Winters in Virginia. When the second group arrived with 70 recruits for the new colony, Capt. John Smith warmly welcomed the five Polish artisans among them both as skilled workmen and representatives of a sturdy, industrious nation.

Capt. Smith, according to history, had reason to respect and admire the Poles. Only a few years before, in Christian Europe's wars with the infidels, he had been captured by the Turks and led into slavery. All of Southeastern Europe was then held by the Mohammedans and the first Christian sanctuary and fugitive found was in Poland.

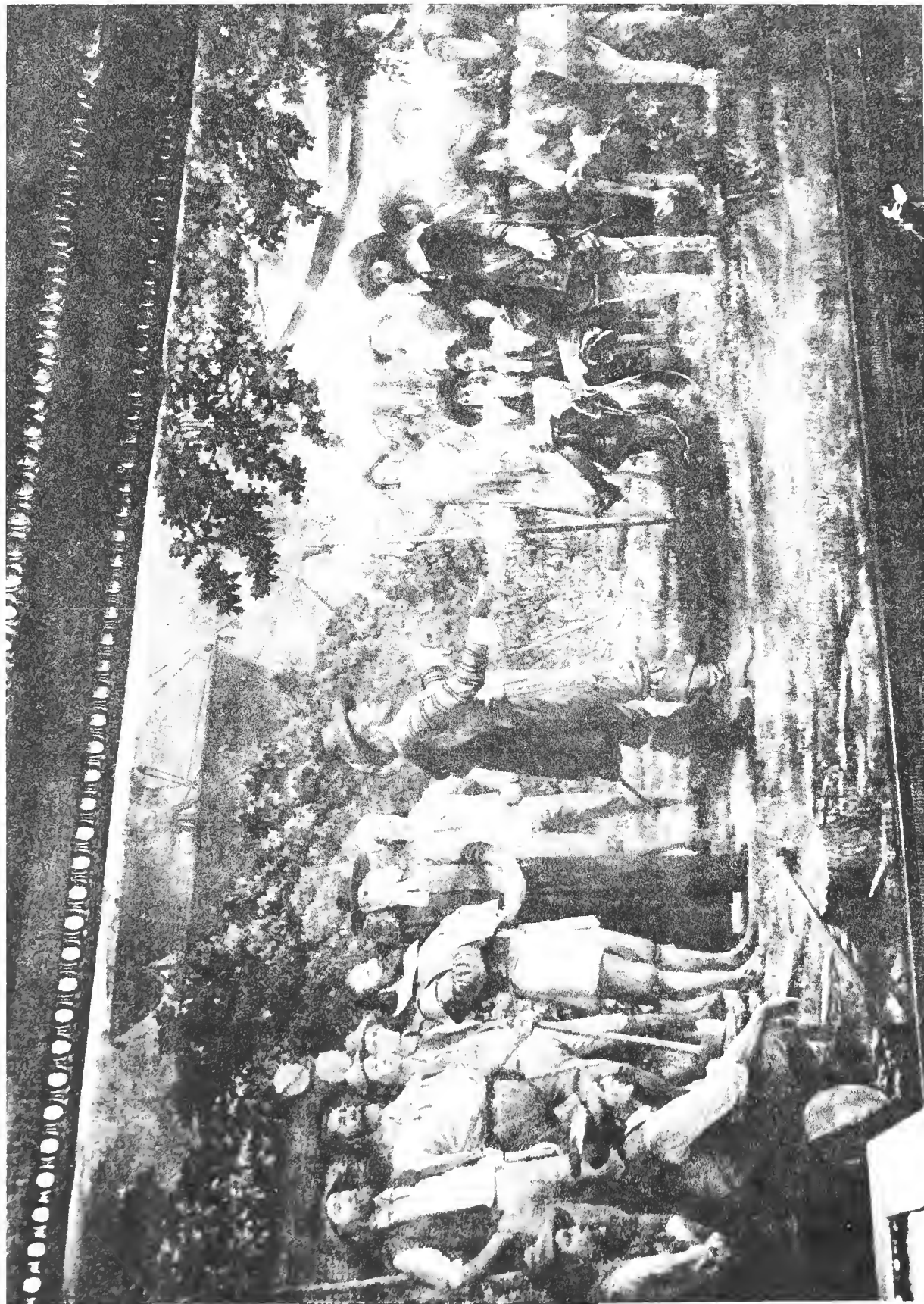
In the book he later wrote, called “The True Travels,” Smith describes how he crossed Poland, aided every foot of the way by people unmatched for “respect, mirth, content and entertainment,” who insisted on loading him with gifts before sending him on to the next town.

It is important for us to call to memory the great achievements of our forefathers in hewing out of the wilderness a new nation. The founding of the first permanent English settlement in 1607 of the first representative form of government in at Jamestown, Virginia.. the establishment there the New World; the flowering Colonial culture at Williamsburg and the winning of American independence at Yorktown are important milestones in our nation's history.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

A portion of Jamestown Island is included in Colonial National Historical Park and is administered by the National Park Service of the United States Department of the Interior. Jamestown National Historic Site, the other portion of the island, is administered by the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities. A cooperative agreement between the Association and the Department of the Interior has been in effect since 1940 providing for a unified program of development for the whole Jamestown Island area.





Colonial National Historical Park, Virginia. — Trial of Captain John Smith, a mural in the Cuyahoga County Courthouse at Cleveland, Ohio, by the noted artist, C. Y. Turner. The scene refers to Smith's exoneration of charges made during the voyage of the first permanent English settlers in the New World, from London in 1606—1607, that he tried to "breed a mutiny." Smith stands to the left in the breastplate while his cause is pled.

What Was The Glasshouse Building?

The things that interest and concern most people in connection with glassmaking at Jamestown are what the glasshouse looked like, how it operated, and what was made there.

Archeological evidence points to the conclusion that the Italians repaired the earlier furnaces without material alteration, and operated with about the same facilities as the first glass workers.

Although there are no descriptions or pictures of the Jamestown glasshouse, there was aid in conjectural reconstruction in knowing something about the facilities used in glassmaking in Europe at that time, what was made, and how it was made. There was benefit, too, from the conservatism of glassmaking. Even the furnace described by Theophilus about 1000 A. D. was similar, for the most part, to one of the two types in use in England six centuries later.

In fact, many of the steps in producing hand-made glass have not changed even to this day. The final picture, therefore, of what the glasshouse looked like, how the furnaces were built, the tools and articles used in the factory, and how the glass was melted and fashioned is probably correct in the main, even though evidence seems meager.

The most important consideration in starting a glass factory was the availability of an adequate supply of fuel. There was plenty of fuel in Virginia in 1608. Accounts tell of the great forests of oak, pine, black walnut, ash, elm, cypress, white poplar, cedar, and other trees. Of the wood near Jamestown suitable for glassmaking, oak was by far the most prevalent, and the supply must have appeared unlimited to the colonists.

An adequate fuel supply was not the only consideration in picking a location for the glasshouse. Important, too, was a site close to the shore of the river, for the colonists had to rely almost entirely upon water transportation.

A factory site on Jamestown Island, as desirable as it might have been from the standpoint of transportation and safety from Indians, was not feasible, for the available high ground was being cleared and planted, and it would not have been long before the securing of fuel would have been a problem.

Just what the factory building looked like can only be guessed, for no archeological information was discovered, other than its overall size, approximately 37 by 50 feet. Nor is there any good information as to what such buildings looked like

in England in that day. Engravings picturing the interior of glasshouses of a century later show simple, wood-framed factory-like structures. An old print, probably dating from about 1500 A. D., shows a plain roof supported on corner posts, with no covering on the sides. The one at Jamestown would certainly have been a simple framework, shows a plain roof supported on corner posts, with a thatched roof. Such a building you see today on Glasshouse, Point.

The Path of Service

(P. A. C. Newsletter Editorial)

The Polish American Congress was founded in 1944 in Buffalo by American leaders of Polish descent who were disturbed by Allied wartime concessions to Russian-communist imperialism.

Among the main purposes and objectives of the Polish American Congress are:—

- complete support of the United States Government in its efforts to win a just and durable peace;

- drafting and applying a constructive program of activities within the United States for the welfare of persons of Polish origin, with the view of encouraging the growth of their fraternal, professional, ideological, civic and other associations;

- activities in the direction of closer and deeper cooperation of American democracy with the people of Poland, in the fields of civic, cultural and socio-economic life;

- furnishing information to the American public on Poland's historic role, her aims, her needs and her right to independence and integrity of her frontiers.

The Polish American Congress was the first American organization to speak out against the aggrandizement of the Soviet Union and to warn against the appeasement of Russia.

Since 1944, the Polish American Congress carried this warning to the American public, its leading figures, and to the governments, represented at the United Nations.

Events of history, revealing the true menace of communism, have proved the validity of these warnings.

The Polish American Congress consistently emphasizes the importance of restoring a free, independent and integral Poland as the cornerstone of European stability and as the foundation of world peace and American security.



Chief Archeologists John L. Cotter, of the NPS at Jamestown, Va., looks up from the surface outline of a seventeenth-century foundation to see a couple dressed in the style of three and a half centuries ago. They look out over the broad James River.



The Original Lists

OF PERSONS OF QUALITY,

EMIGRANTS; RELIGIOUS EXILES; POLITICAL REBELS;
SERVING MEN SOLD FOR A TERM OF YEARS; APPRENTICES;
CHILDREN STOLEN; MAIDENS PRESSED; AND OTHERS
WHO WENT FROM GREAT BRITAIN TO THE
AMERICAN PLANTATIONS

1600-1700.

WITH THEIR AGES, THE
LOCALITIES WHERE THEY FORMERLY LIVED IN THE MOTHER COUNTRY,
THE NAMES OF THE SHIPS IN WHICH THEY EMBARKED,
AND OTHER INTERESTING PARTICULARS.

FROM MSS. PRESERVED IN THE STATE PAPER DEPARTMENT OF HER
MAYESTY'S PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, ENGLAND.

EDITED BY

JOHN CAMDEN HOTTEN.



New York:

J. W. BOUTON, 706, B

1874.

Transliterations Of Polish Patronymics

While neither the primary sources, i. e. Capt. Smith's writings and original Jamestowners' accounts nor the Records of the Virginia Company record Polish pioneers by their surnames, a number of Poles could be surmised from the incomplete "Original Lists" from the years of 1600 to 1700.

The difficulties, however, are great, and without additional genealogical data, it is not possible to state with accuracy, which names bear Polish patronymics.

Even typical English names are misspelled in the records. Non-English are written phonetically, in practically all instances.

Transliterations of these names can be based only on the sounds of written words. Some of them have no

meaning in the English language. Taken phonetically and written as Polish sounds, they immediately gain in expression and substance. Thus—Michael Lowicke becomes Łowicki—a hunter; Molasco the Polander—Mały-szko, Lt. Pottocke—a Potocki, etc.

In the partially preserved "Original Lists," we find such names as:—Henryk Bursztyn (Purštyn), Jan Skory (Skorie), Maria (Wrast), Tomasz Dąb (Dabb), Edward Wygoń (Wygon), Jan Kulawy (Kullaway), Tomasz Mientuś (Mentus or Meutis), William Andrus (Andrus), Tomasz Odzwierny (Oddiarne), Mateusz Kuta (Cuta), Jan Leca (first name recorded "Jan") with wife and children, Jan Dajmont (Damont) with wife and children, and many others.

The Pioneers

(PAC Newsletter Editorial)

Jamestown in Virginia is the cradle of the Polish American heritage,—rich in examples of patriotic living, of enduring deeds, of dedicated service to God and Country.

Polish pioneers planted the seeds of these lasting valors in New World's first permanent English settlement in 1608.

At first, there were only five of them...soon their number grew to fifty.

Historians are agreed that these Polish pioneers in America—

—were instrumental in saving Jamestown colony from a total failure;

—built New World's first factory—the historic Glass House;

—manufactured first export goods in this land;
—struck the first effective blow for civic liberties.

Other Poles followed in their footsteps and made lasting contribution to the growth and development of the United States...Pulaski, Kościuszko, Karge, Krzyżanowski, Barzyński, Sadowski (Sandusky) are the illustrious names in American history.

Today—we are 7-million strong in the United States.

We have built 1,000 churches and parochial schools, fifteen High Schools and four colleges.

We have organized great fraternal orders with combined assets of over 250-million dollars, and two war Veterans' groups.

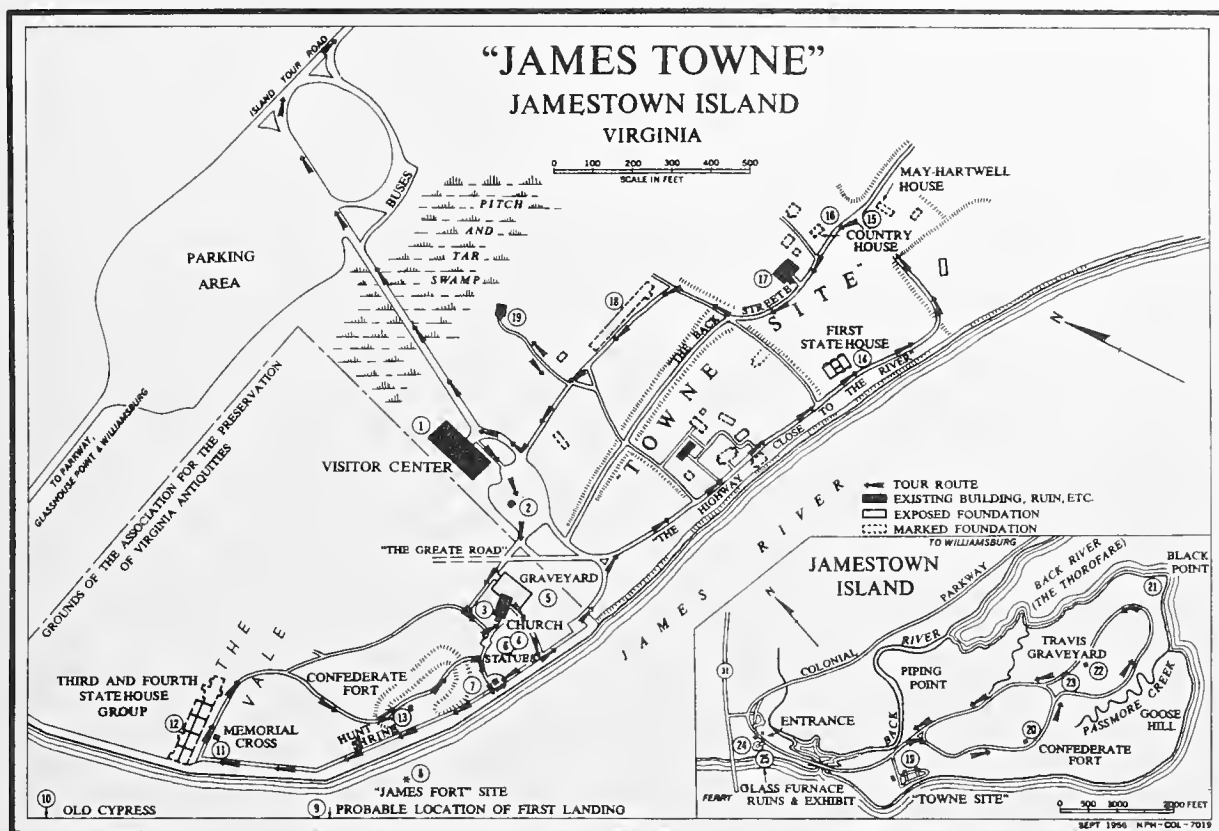
We are publishing 8 American dailies and 15 periodicals in the Polish language.

In 1958 we are observing the 350th anniversary of the coming of the first Poles to America—three and a half centuries of our creative participation in the development and stabilization of the American Way of Life.

We invite you to actively participate in this historic observance.



Etched on the William and Mary roll of fame are the names of the first President of the United States, who, although not an alumnus, held his first and last public office at the College, and three other Presidents of the United States, fifteen members of the Continental Congress, the authors of both the Declaration of Independence and the Monroe Doctrine, a Chief Justice of the United States and three Associate Justices of the Supreme Court, thirteen Cabinet members, 29 Senators, three Speakers and 56 Members of the House of Representatives, 18 Ministers to Foreign Governments, 21 judges of the Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals, besides scores of others distinguished in civil and military life, in letters, science, the arts, education, and the church.



Long And Glorious Tradition

By HON. ALVIN E. O'KONSKI
Congressman from Wisconsin

It is often imagined that the Polish Americans like most other central-eastern European citizens are recent arrivals to our shores. Actually the Poles settled in America even before the more boasting Pilgrims of the Mayflower. The beginnings of Colonial Virginia marked the beginnings of the history of Polish immigration in this country. Jamestown was founded in 1607 by the Virginia Company of London. A year later, in October of 1608, the Poles appeared. They arrived with the Second Supply and were engaged by the Virginia Company as experts and instructors in the manufacture of glass and pitch, tar and other products which Poland had long exported to England. They built a glass furnace about a mile from Jamestown and cut down the first trees for wood manufacture; in short time they sent to England the first samples of their work, in fact, the first products of American industry.

Unfortunately, the English settlers were "vagabond gentlemen" who were accustomed to easy

life and came to Virginia in quest of gold rather than a life of industry and liberty. In his book, Captain John Smith gave the Poles credit for saving the Virginia Colony and often spoke of their skill in making pitch, tar, soap-ashes and the glass beads which were used as currency in trading with the Indians. Captain Smith wrote: "They (colonists) never did know what a day's work was except the Poles."

* * *

Then came the terrible winter of 1609-1610 that was known as "starving time"; of the four hundred colonists only sixty survived. Added to this were constant fear of attacks by Indians, pestilence and famine. Many Poles survived this winter and the manufacture of wood products in Virginia lasted until 1622. The bloody massacre of that year was the fatal stroke that broke the spirit of the colony.

* * *

The Polish worker contributed to America's development not only by his "sweat and brawn"

LUMBER & Wood Products



Lumbering (timbering as it was then called) and the making of wood products was one of the first commercial ventures by the English in Virginia. The virgin forests were a source for building materials and naval stores which were already in short supply in England and expensive to obtain elsewhere.

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but also by his honesty and love of liberty. It was this sense of justice and willingness to fight for liberty that gave the Poles the right to vote. For in the year 1619 the Jamestown colony was granted a form of self-government by the London Company and the English settlers were given the right to vote. However, the Poles were denied that right. The Poles justly demanded the right to vote and full equality with the other colonists. In the tiny community this was equivalent to a major rebellion. This was the first political upheaval in America for the purpose of extending rights to the common man. In it men of different backgrounds acted jointly against injustice for the first time in the New World. The Poles ceased to work until they could vote. The dispute assumed such proportions that Governor Yearley was forced to report it to the Council at London. The Poles won the first victory for freedom and the records of the Company mentions on July 3rd, 1619:

"Upon some dispute of the Polonians resident in Virginia, it was now agreed (notwithstanding any former order to the contrary) that they shall be enfranchised and made as free as any inhabitant there whatsoever: and because their skill in making pitch and tar and soap ashes shall not die with them, it is agreed that some young men shall be put unto them to learn their skill and knowledge there in for the benefit of the country hereafter."

This first strike of the Poles in Virginia, not for economical advantages, but for political rights, may be justly regarded as the first struggle and the first victory for the cause of freedom on this continent.

* * *

As the Poles won the first victory for the cause of freedom in this country, it was also from Poland that came the first foreign patriot to heed the call of the "Shot that was heard around the world" and the first to come to the aid of the American colonies in their struggle for freedom. This man was General Thaddeus Kosciuszko, the Father of the American Artillery. General Kosciuszko is one of this country's greatest patriots and his role in the American Revolution is well-known to every school boy. Washington once wrote to him "No one has a higher respect and veneration for your character than I have." General Kosciuszko and the equally famous and great Count Pulaski are the best known among the

myriads of patriots that Poland has sent to our shores to partake in the cause of freedom. Many like Count Pulaski lost their lives in this struggle that will be remembered as long as liberty and freedom are cherished by man.

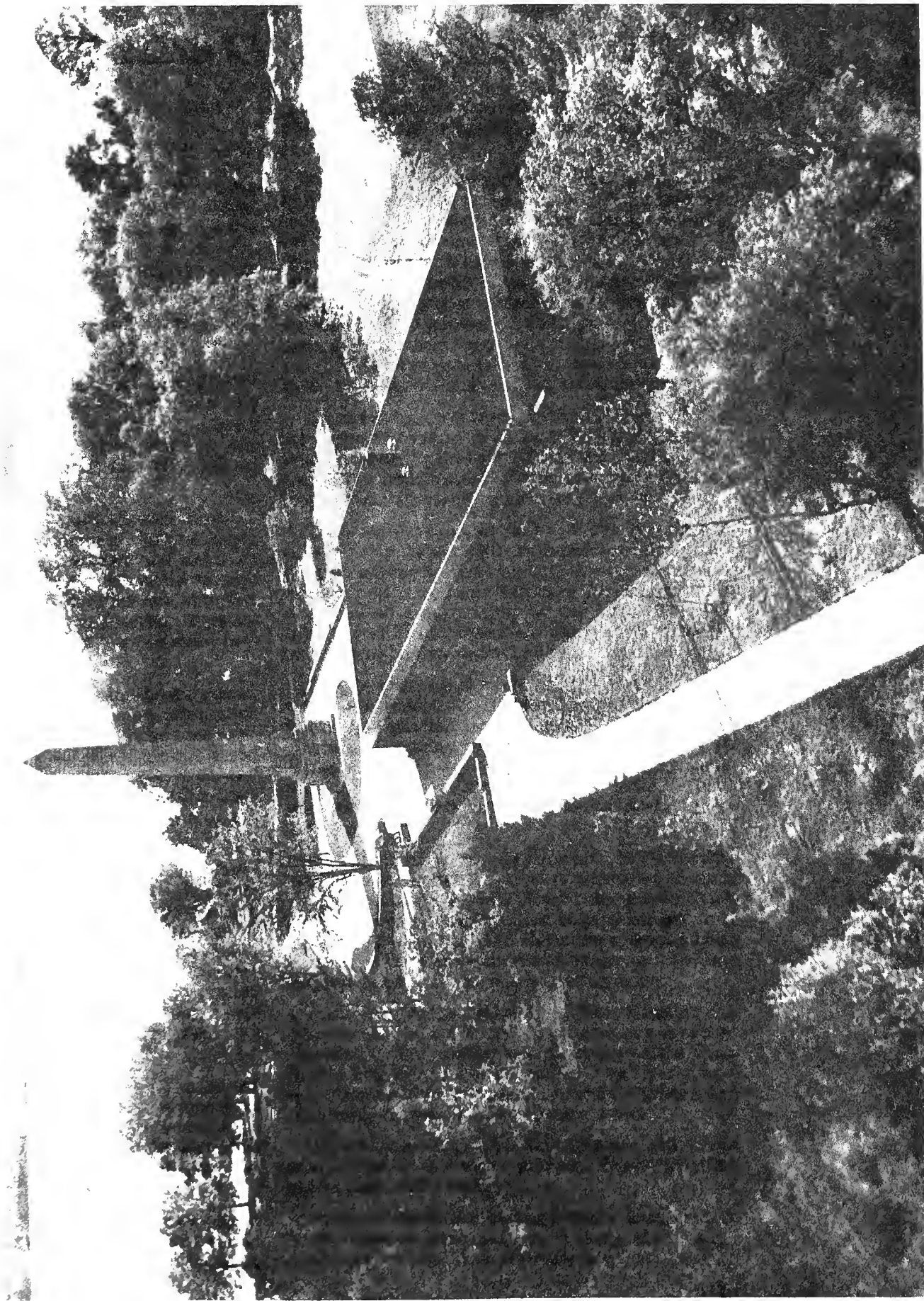
* * *

Poles in this country have a long and glorious tradition as freedom loving people. They have made their full contribution to the upbuilding of our institutions and to the fulfillment of our national life. Though we are reflecting on our great traditions, let us not forget that it is to Ellis Island rather than to Jamestown that a great part of the Polish Americans trace their history in this country. American Poles have been mostly laborers and farmers. They arrived in this country like the Polish carpenters and pitch makers of Virginia and the Polish Soldiers of the Revolution; at the crucial moment in the development of the American Commonwealth. At the time of laying the foundation of the new industrial empire. This army of labor, in which the Poles played an important part, has won for this nation the first place in the industrial life of the world. It is these people as well as the frontiersmen who constitute the real historical background which needs to be understood.

* * *

In reviewing the glorious traditions of the freedom loving Polish people of our nation, let us not forget Poland today. If Kosciuszko and Pulaski were alive today, they would say: "Fight for the freedom of Poland. Do everything in your power to bring justice to Poland because Poland is now the test case of Freedom as your nation was in 1776." Let us all repeat in our hearts the song of Poland: "Jeszcze Polska nie zginela."

As a Congressman I know that the best way of preserving freedom everywhere is helping to preserve the freedom of Poland. Let us forever cling to our great traditions of freedom and never cease to fight for Poland's freedom. If freedom fails in Poland it will fail in all of Europe. Freedom is not something that remains stagnant—it either grows or dies. If Poland dies, freedom dies with it. Because we love America and because we love freedom, our hearts are for Poland, our tears are for Poland, our words are going to be for Poland, because we know that Poland has always been the most loyal and gallant ally of the freedom loving people of America.



Aerial view—monument and visitor's center.

350th ANNIVERSARY OF JAMESTOWN

(Excerpts from Linn's Weekly Stamp News)

A strong sentiment is already developing in philatelic and other circles favoring the issuance of a stamp or set of stamps to mark the 350th anniversary of the arrival of the first "foreign immigrants" in America. These were a contingent of Polish skilled workmen brought in by the Jamestown, Va. settlers in the second year of their operations.

The realization that this is a historical fact comes as a surprise to many who consider themselves acquainted with early colonial days. It is reminiscent of one rather unusual factor held in common by two commems of last year, the Virginia of Sagadahock "ship building" stamp and the Jamestown adhesive—each brought the public face to face with some hitherto little known pioneer American history.

In the first instance the approach was direct—the stamp proclaimed the message. In the latter the kernel was well buried beneath the assorted pomp and pageantry, fanfare and general whoop-de-do of noting the 350th anniversary of the May 14, 1607 landing at Jamestown. Further, it provided a faint clue to the basis of the proposed new issue.

Even so, it was only the alert Jamestown tourist who had eyes in his head and a keen perception behind them, and who in the course of his meanderings found himself out on Glass House Point watching the reconstructed early 17th century glass works in operation, who could divine the history that lay behind the quaint equipment and oddly dressed workmen.

For this was no carnival glassblowing sideshow, no "added attraction". It was, rather, a reconstruction of our great nation's first factory, and squarely on the original site at that. This spot it was from which the first export consignment of American made merchandise was shipped almost exactly 350 years ago. And it was on this ground that humanity's greatest crucible, the American Melting Pot, struck its first boil. The date was October 1, 1608.

Sixteen months earlier the English had landed at Jamestown and set up their poorly projected and ill organized colony. It had soon become apparent that skilled workmen were needed, and overtures were made to Polish craftsmen then in England and others still in the old country.

The first contingent landed in the new world October 1, 1608. At once they set about establishing facilities for producing glass cordage, flax,

masts, pitch, rosin, soap ashes, and other products which they had originally exported from Poland to England.

Within three weeks that first glass furnace was blazing away, and in less than two months the industrious newcomers had made enough assorted products to forward a modest consignment to England via the "Mary and Margaret" which had brought them. Later such products as clapboards, building materials and lumber were added to the outward bound cargoes. (The capacity of that first glass furnace was modest, but its "descendants" of 1958 have a combined annual capacity of more than six million tons, at latest reports).

Among those first arrivals from Catholic Poland coming to the aid of Protestant Englishmen in the new world were Zbigniew Stefański, Jan Bogdan, Jan Mata, and Stanisław Sadowski directly from Poland, and Michał Nowicki from London.

Later ships brought more Poles who distinguished themselves both in defending the colony against hostile Indians and in helping it grow in economy. No one could estimate what might have been the ultimate destiny of the ill-fated undertaking had it not been for these first "foreign immigrants" of its second and subsequent years.

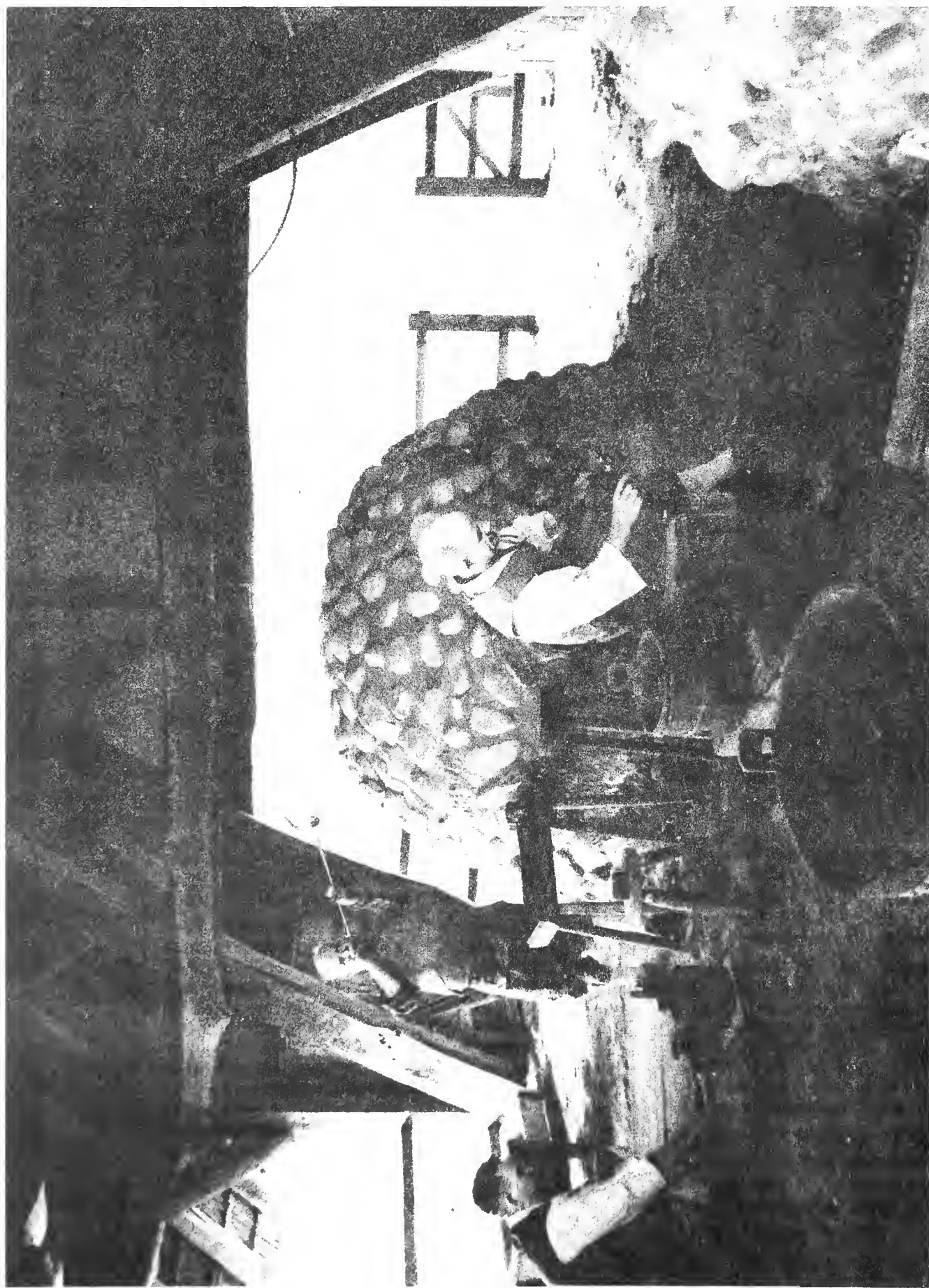
After a year or so, some of these early Polish settlers returned to England with Capt. John Smith and settled for a while in London. The Virginia Company implored them to return to Jamestown with a promise of better living conditions and a better administration. In May, 1610, they returned and renewed their efforts in the new world.

By 1619 the colony had grown to 2000 freedom loving settlers who now were extended certain civil rights and liberties. Under the pretext that they were still indebted for their passage from England to America, the Poles were denied their right to vote in the election of burgesses, so they stopped their work at the glass furnace.

According to the records of The Virginia Co. "they ceased to work until this injustice would be removed." The matter was referred to the Company's Council in London which went on record that "concessions were made to the Poles and they were ordered to finish their strike."

This was the first strike in America and it was won — not for economic gains or fringe benefits, but to gain civil liberties.

Apropos the strike, it was further documented: "And because their skill in making glass, soap, pitch and tar shall not die with them, it is agreed



Another scene in the reconstructed Glass House



[71]



Jamestown Settlers Trading With The Indians

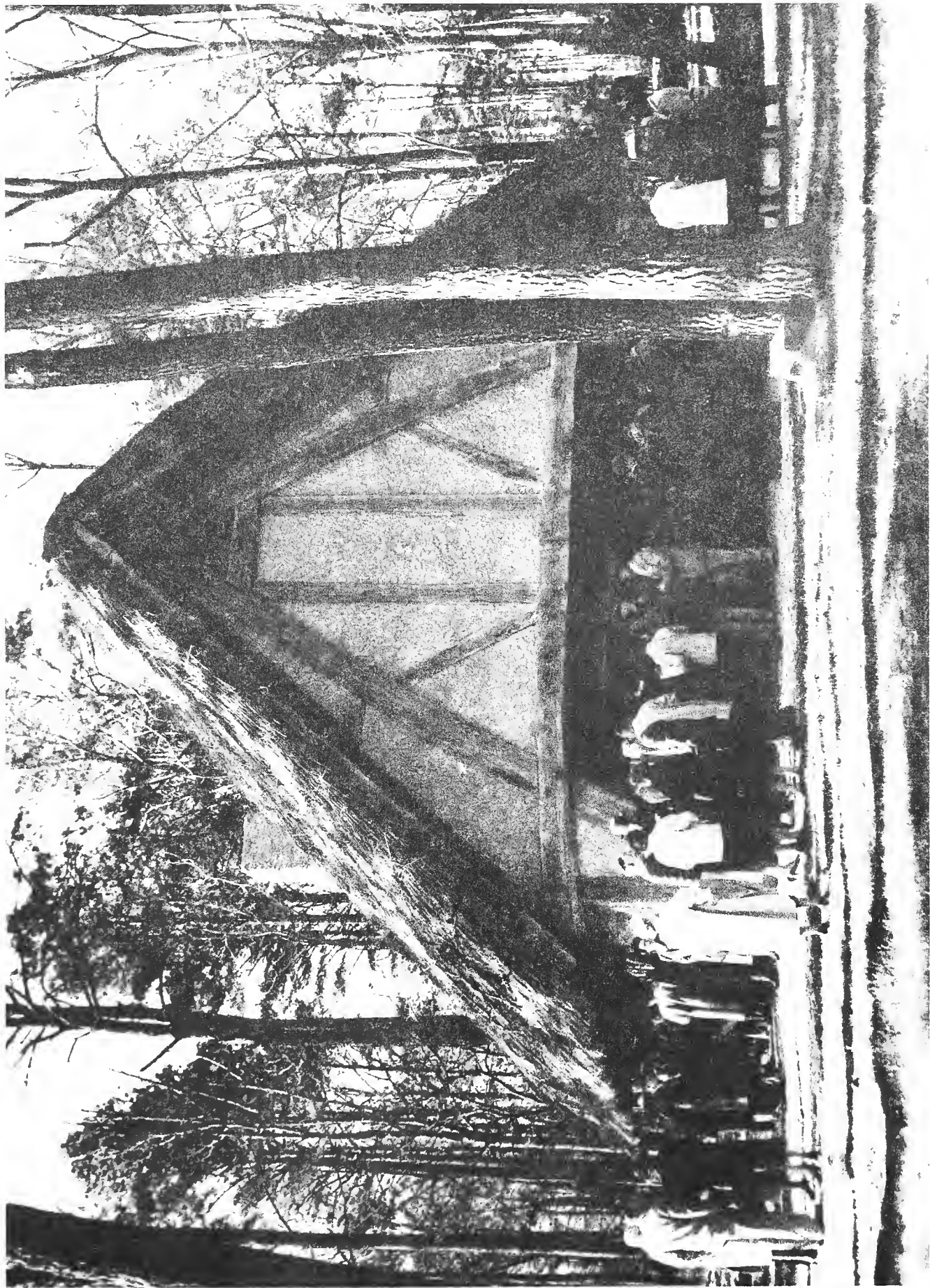
Conjectural sketch

For inexpensive beads and trinkets the colonists received furs, foods,
and other commodities from the aborigines



Photo courtesy National Park Service.

Tools Used By The Early Jamestown Settlers For Timbering
A few of many tools excavated at Jamestown which were used for timbering over 300 years ago: felling axes, a hewing axe, adze, hatchet, wedge, and saw fragment.



A Group of Visitors at the dedication of reconstructed glass house in 1957

History Of Jamestown Glass House Of 1608

Historical articles on glass, even the most abbreviated, usually begin with a review of the history of Egyptian and Roman glass, but we depart from this customary treatment, even to the omission of a quotation from Pliny, who so nicely accounts for the discovery of glass by the accidental fusion of sand in a desert campfire and begin in London shortly before the Second Supply sailed for the Virginia colony in the summer of 1608, for it was in this Supply that the first glassmakers were carried to Jamestown.

Captain Christopher Newport had returned from Jamestown after replenishing the struggling colony with men and supplies, and officials of the London Company of Virginia were again recruiting settlers. The word that Newport brought back would have discouraged any but the most optimistic, for none of the objectives of the undertaking had been achieved, save the planting of the colony, and even that was in a precarious position.

Prominent in the list of possible industries for which Virginia seemed suitable was glassmaking. In the past fifty years there had been a great increase in the demand for glass. Expansion of the industry had been limited by the gradual depletion of the forests, for coal was just beginning to be used as fuel in glass furnaces.

Captain Newport had explored the vicinity of Jamestown and would have known that the resources needed for glassmaking were readily available in the new land.

But enlisting English glassmakers to leave a flourishing industry at home and set up business anew in a strange land across the ocean was not easy. It is not surprising, therefore, to find the Company looking abroad, and among the seventy settlers who sailed for Virginia in the summer of 1608 were "eight Dutchmen and Poles," some of whom were glassmakers.

Whatever the future might hold for glassmaking in Virginia, its introduction in the fall of 1608 certainly appeared at the time to greatly enhance the chances for the colony's success and supplied excellent propaganda for reassuring the uneasy investors in England. Things had been going from bad to worse before the arrival of the Second Supply.

The first real step toward permanency came with the Second Supply, which brought among its seventy new settlers a number of artisans, including the eight Dutchmen and Poles. Cap-

tain John Smith, who had become President of the Council in September, dispatched some of the newcomers to making glass.

The glass factory, according to Smith, was located "in the woods neare a myle from James Towne," or, as William Strachey described it, "a little without the Island where Jamestown stands." There, as Strachey goes on to say, the glass workers and their helpers erected a glasshouse, which was "a goodly howse...with all offices and furnaces thereto belonging."

These newcomers must have set themselves to this task with greater diligence than most of the colonists had previously approached their work, for, when Captain Newport left for England late that year, he carried with him "tryals of Glasse." Of what this first "tryal of glasse" consisted, the record gives no hint.

The records tell very little more about this first glassmaking venture. There are a few indirect references, such as when Smith tells of a fight he had with an Indian in the spring of 1609 when returning alone from the glasshouse. Then there is a reference to a second "tryal" being produced that spring. But these add little beyond the fact that there was activity at the glass factory during the first six months or more following its establishment.

Likely the first glassmaking venture came to a close about the time that John Smith returned to England in the fall of 1609. In any event, glassmaking most certainly would not have continued during the terrible period of starvation and sickness which followed Smith's departure—a period realistically labelled "The Starving Time," during which all but 60 of the 500 inhabitants at Jamestown died.

Twelve years later, and less than a year after the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth, a second glassmaking venture got under way at Jamestown. It was a well organized, businesslike undertaking, quite unlike the earlier pioneering effort of 1608 and staffed with experienced Italian glass workers.

This second venture was organized largely through the initiative of Captain William Norton, not a glassmaker himself, but an adventurous soul with some money to invest. In June, 1621, he petitioned the London Company for a patent to "sett upp o Glasse ffurnace [in Virginia] and make all manner of Beads & Glasse." He proposed to take four "Italyans" and two servants to Virginia, who were to have the glasshouse operating within three months after their arrival.

After considerable haggling over terms, arrangements were finally made and funds to assist Captain Norton in the venture were raised by the sale of joint stock. With him the Company dispatched a letter to the colonial authorities stating:

"We commend unto you Capt. Wm. Norton who is now sett out by the general Company and many private Adventurers for her erecting of a Glass Worke;...and especially have a Care to seat him neare some well inhabited Place, that neither his Gange be subject to Surprise, nor the Commodities of Glasse and Beads be vilified by too common a Sale to the Indians."

The Italians proved a difficult crew to deal with, and offered one excuse after another for failing to make glass. They did have some hard luck, however. First their glasshouse blew down; then the Indian massacre of 1622 put a stop to everything for the time being.

Finally Captain Norton died, and even the Italians "fell extremely sick." George Sandys, resident treasurer for the Company, took over the project upon Norton's death, but fared little better in getting results. He repaired the furnace and the crew set to work in earnest in the spring of 1623, but without success.

"The Fier hath now been six Weeks in ye Furnace, and yett nothing effected. They complaine that ye Sand will not run...but I conceave that they would gladly make the Worke appeare unfeasable, that they might by that Meanes be dismissed for England. Much hath beene my Truble herein, and not a little my Patience."

In a desperate effort to make something of the enterprise, Sandys even sent to England for sand that might better suit the glass workers, but he finally was forced to give up completely in the spring of 1624. The records are not conclusive, but they would certainly suggest that little, if any glass was made during this second glassmaking venture at Jamestown.

In both of these attempts to get the glass industry started in America, individuals in England had invested rather heavily. By 1624, when the London Company lost its charter and Virginia became a crown colony, they must have been fairly discouraged. It certainly was obvious, even before 1624, that financial profits in the colony would come easier and faster from tilling the soil than from uncertain manufacturing ventures.

Reprinted from the Virginia Gazette.

Special Glasshouse
Furnace

THE VIRGINIA GAZETTE

Containing the freshest Advices, Foreign and Domestic.

The Virginia Gazette masthead



Attendant in the Old World Pavilion at Jamestown Festival Park shows interested visitor a historic document. (Virginia Chamber of Commerce photo).



Foundations of a circular "oven" at Jamestown fascinate youngsters. (NPS).



Making Tar At Jamestown From Pine Wood

Conjectural sketch

“No Sooner Were We Landed” . . . And Making Tar And Pitch★ Started

Pitch and tar—used by shipbuilders from time immemorial for cauking and covering seams of vessels—were made at Jamestown as early as 1608. After the second supply ships reached Jamestown in October, 1608, one of the settlers wrote:

No sooner were we landed, but the President disprersed (as) many as were able, some for glasse, others for pitch, tarre, and soape ashes. A month later trials of pitch and tar were carried to England by Captain Christopher Newport, as reported by Thomas Studley, one of the original planters:

Captaine Newport being dispatched with the tryals of pitch, tarre, glass, frankincense and sope ashes, with that clapbord and wainscot (which) could be provided.... returned for England.

As pitch and tar were made in Virginia throughout the seventeenth century, mainly for exporting to England, it appears that the colonists made some profit from the sale of such products.

Pitch and tar were obtained from pine trees, one of the common trees in the Tidewater Virginia woods. Tar is an oily, dark colored, product obtained in the destructive distillation of pine wood. In Virginia it was commonly made from the resinous roots and wood of various pines. The wood was heaped into a conical stack depressed at the center, covered with earth, and fired. The tar ran into a hollowed-out place in the soil beneath the stack of wood. Pitch was a dark-colored viscous substance obtained as a residue in distilling pine tar, and widely used for cauking seams of boats.

It is of interest that the early settlers named the large swamp north of the town area “Pitch and Tar Swamp”. Undoubtedly the large pine trees which bordered the swamp were used for making pitch and tar, as well as turpentine and resin.

*The Records of the Virginia Company plainly state that the Poles were “masters” and “instructors” in glass, pitch, tar and polash making.



Doctor Lawrence Bohun Experimenting With Herbs At Jamestown, 1610

Conjectural sketch

Herbs That Healed Poisoned Wounds Were Shown The Pioneers By One Indian

HERBS AND MEDICINAL PLANTS

Among commodities which the early Jamestown settlers searched for were herbs and medicinal plants. It is possible that Thomas Wotton and Will Wilkinson, surgeons with the first colony, were the first members of the English medical profession to collect and experiment with New World plants.

The few colonists who wrote of their travels in Virginia frequently made mention of the herbs and native plants. George Percy related that five days after the settlers had planted their colony at Jamestown, May 19, 1607, that "One of the savages brought us on the way to the wood-side, where there was a garden of tobacco and other fruits and herbes."

On an exploring trip upriver from Jamestown in late May, 1607, Gabriel Archer recorded that "One (savage) shewed us the herbe called in their tongue wisacan, which they say heals poysoned woundes, it is like lyverwort or bloudwort."

John Smith mentioned the spring herbs, though he did not know their names: "Many hearbes in the spring time there are common dispersed throughout the woods, good for brothers and sallets, as violets, purslin, sorrell, &c. Besides many were used whose names we know not."

The first supply, approximately 120 settlers, reached Jamestown in midwinter and early spring, 1608. Among the group was a physician, Dr. Walter Russell; a surgeon, Post Ginnatt; and two apothecaries, Thomas Feld and John Harford. There is no record, however, indicating that these men used Virginia plants and herbs for medicinal purposes.

The man who first made intensive experiments with native plants was Doctor Lawrence Bohun*. Arriving at Jamestown in 1610, he is mentioned several times by William Strachey, who also reached Jamestown in 1610 in the *Hitorie of Travell into Virginia*.

*The name implies Polish origin.

National Park Service Uncovers Ancient Site

The location of the Jamestown glasshouse was discovered almost through pure chance by the late Jesse Dimmick who owned the property before it was acquired by the Government as part of the Jamestown area. Mr. Dimmick knew that the glasshouse site might be on his land, for he was well acquainted with the old records. These records were too vague to tie down the exact location of the glass factory, but they did offer some clues.

Land records furnished the best evidence. Francis Moryson acquired a tract of land in 1654, described in the property transfer as the "Twenty four Acres of Land commonly known by the name of the Glass house." From that date on, a continuous chain of title can be found for this tract, thus providing a location within reasonable limits: For hundreds of years the area has been known as "Glass House Point."

One version of the story is that Mr. Dimmick was walking through the woods one evening in 1931 and accidentally kicked up a piece of slag. Whether he found other evidence just then, he recognized the significance of the find, and shortly began some test excavations.

He uncovered what appeared to be three stone structures, and in the earth remover from these ruins, found fragments of glass and portions of old crucibles, or melting pots. He did a little more digging the following year and then covered over the ruins and fenced in the site.

Thus the site stood until excavations were started by the National Park Service in the fall of 1948, exactly 340 years after Captain John Smith put men to work building a glasshouse "neare a myle from James Towne."

The earth was wheeled away as it was trowelled out, and then screened, keeping the material recovered from each unit within the area, and from each soil layer, in separate containers. The digging was done very carefully and slowly, for National Park Service Archeologist Harrington was quite confident of finding glass beads. Although not a single bead was found, fragments even smaller were recovered, as well as thin threads of glass, often as fine as a small needle.

Because of the very nature of glassmaking, in which salvaged glass is a valuable and necessary ingredient in every new batch, one could not hope to find much old glass, but Harrington was confident that occasional pieces would have been tramped into the dirt floor, and there was the remote possibility that a supply of broken glass had been left behind when the factory was abandoned.

These hopes were realized to a degree. After removing the three-century earth accumulation, careful excavation of the original earth floor of the glasshouse produced a fair amount of broken glass, all very small. But by far the most material of this sort came from a small deposit at one corner of the glasshouse. It quite obviously had once been a small pile of waste glass lying on the floor, ready for use in new batches. The material in this pile consisted of every type of glass that one might find around a glass factory—broken glass objects, as well as drippings and other refuse from glass-making.

The big surprise was in not finding any glass beads or other evidence of bead-making, and the keen disappointment was that none of the glass fragments were large enough to show what the original objects had been.

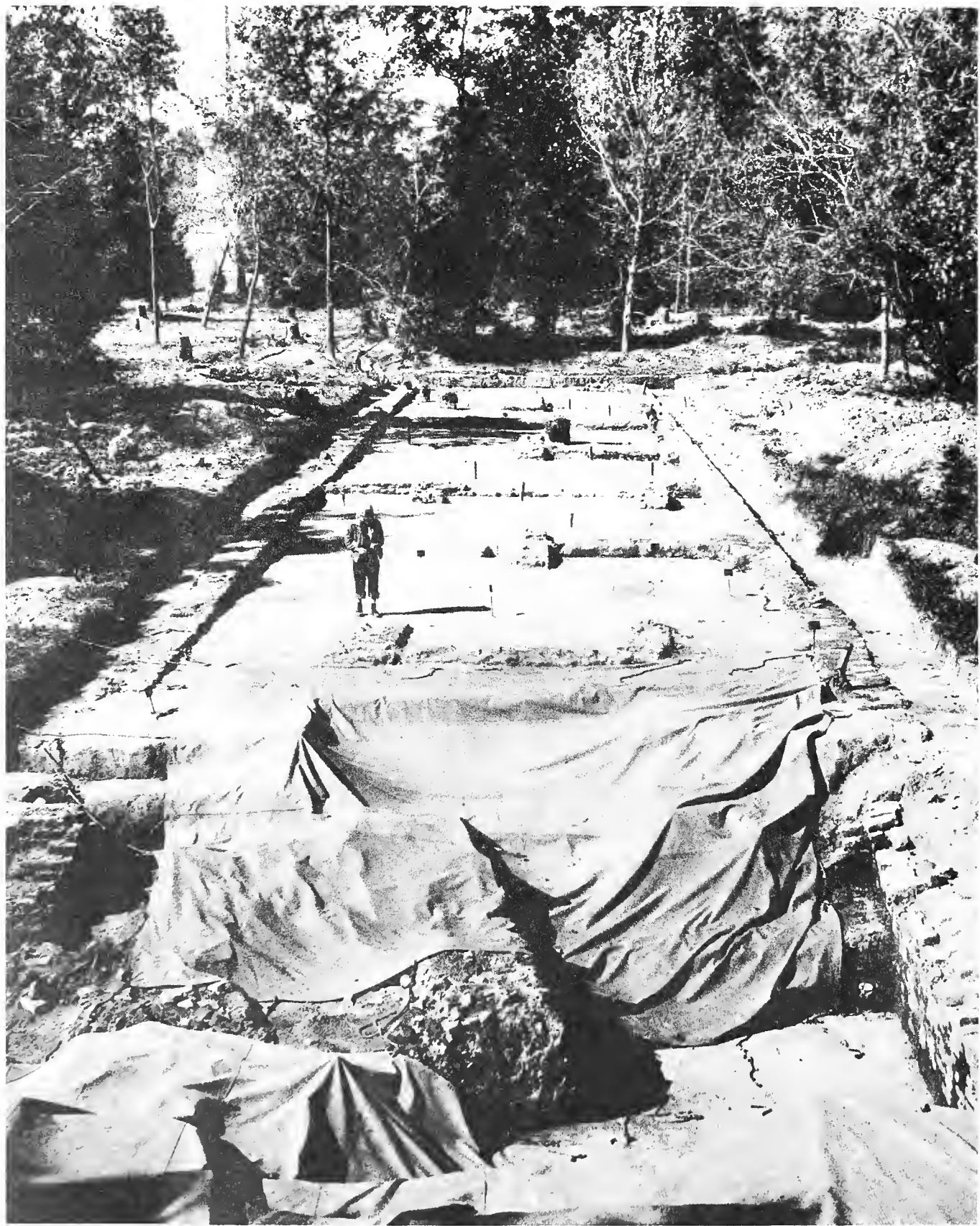
Of greatest interest, of course, were the remains of four stone furnaces, or ovens, all built of rounded river boulders imbedded in clay. The main body of the furnace was circular, roughly the same size as the one reconstructed in the present replica factory.

The boulders varied considerably in size from small rounded ones only 5 to 6 inches across to large, irregular ones as much as 2 feet in length. All are a common sandstone which appears in outcroppings at the "Fall Line" some 75 miles up the river from Jamestown. Identical boulders, however, are found on bars and beaches along the James River where they have been deposited by flood waters.

The colonists knew of these deposits of river boulders, for the record of Captain Newport's first exploration up the James in 1607 realtes that about 30 miles above Jamestown "the shoare began to be full of greate Cobble stones." Stone of this type is not found in England, further evidence that the building material was secured locally.

The three other smaller structures were also built of river boulders, similarly imbedded in clay. Archeological evidence provides few hints as to the purpose of these smaller furnaces, or ovens. Each shows clear evidence of having been fired, for the clay between the stones is burned from heat, and charcoal and ashes were found inside them and on the glasshouse floor around them.

The smaller of these auxiliary units was built with exceptionally large boulders, suggesting that it might have been taller than the other two, although it had the smallest fire chamber, only 1½ feet wide and 4½ feet long. At the front was a small platform consisting of a flat stone and several soft, red bricks.



NPS archeologists exposed this foundation of a row house 170 by 21 feet which five or six adjoining families occupied in the seventeenth century—a forerunner of modern apartments.



Photo courtesy National Park Service.

Artifacts Relating To Glassmaking—Found Near The Site Of The Jamestown Glasshouse

In the picture are shown a small melting pot, part of a working hole, fragment from a large melting pot, cullet (the broken or refuse glass in the lower left corner), and green glass fragments (lower center and lower right)

The other two units were built end to end. The walls of these twin structures were less than a foot thick, and being built of relatively small, rounded boulders, could only have supported low, semi-circular arches.

One of the most important features found in the excavation was a pit, located near the front of the main furnace. It was roughly 8 feet square and extended down about 1½ feet below the original ground level. The bottom was filled with furnace refuse, containing ashes, fragments of old melting pots, working hole frames, stone spalls, glass drippings, and slag. This material quite obviously came from a furnace, and the only logical conclusion is that the pit dates from the second glass-making venture of 1621.

Further evidence that the material in this pit came from a furnace is the absence of any fragments of fabricated glass, such as found in the pile of salvaged glass described above. Also of interest is that the only pottery vessels found at the site, other than the crucibles, came from this pit.

Fragments of two atricles were recovered, one a leadglazed, red earthenware cooking vessel; the other a small Indian pot. Obviously the first glassmakers at Jamestown had used one of the furnaces for cooking their food.

A really important discovery was an old road with ditches along each side. It is clearly the remains of the old road that ran along the shore

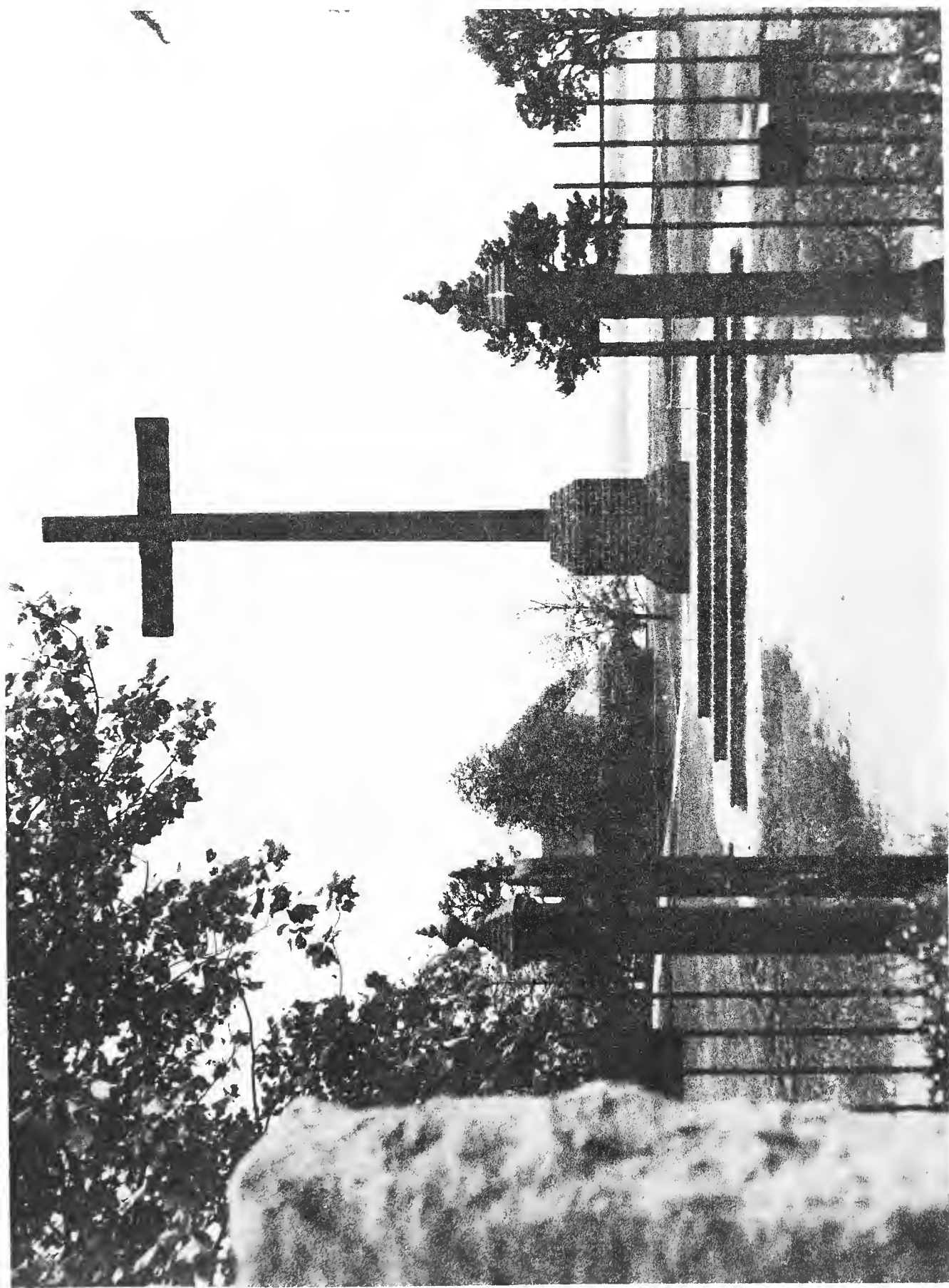
from Jamestown to the glasshouse, then straight into the mainland. In later years it was the main road to Greenspring, Governor Berkley's plantation.

The archeological exploration, described very briefly here, actually revealed a great deal about the physical facilities used by the glassmakers and something about the way glass was made at the Jamestown factory.

Above all, they show that the colonists made a sincere attempt to start a manufacturing enterprise, and that even though the time was not ripe for success in their glass ventures, they were able to, and did, produce a workable glass comparable to that made in English glasshouses of the era.

An important phase of the post-excavating studies involved research in England, made possible by a grant from Glass Crafts of America, which enabled Mr. Harrington to spend three months there in the spring of 1950. No new documents bearing directly on Jamestown came to light, but a great deal of information was found concerning Glassmaking at the time the Jamestown glass factories were operating.

The furnace of the Replica Factory now operating, the pot kiln, the lehr and other appurtenances are based upon the archeology, research and study of glass by Crafts of America, the Jamestown Glasshouse Foundation, the National Park Service and more especially and particularly the work of J. C. Harrington of the National Park Service.



Memorial Cross near which religious ceremonies were held on Sunday, September 28, 1958.

They Were Pioneers of Liberty and Soldiers

Potash and other wood products and tobacco were then the first products which Poland and American colonies exchanged since earliest times. But before these first commercial ties came into being the Poles had the opportunity to play the role of pioneers not only of American industry, but also of American liberty.

In 1619, during the second administration of Gov. Yeardley, an important change occurred in Virginia's public life. The number of inhabitants rose since 1607 to 2,000 souls in eleven settlements and the colony grew in prosperity. Up to this time colonists were ruled by an absolute government, but Yeardley inaugurated a limited autonomy. On July 30, 1619, the first legislative assembly on the American continent met at the church in Jamestown. It was known as the House of Burgesses and was composed of two delegates from every settlement. This assembly became known as the Mother of the American representative legislature.

But not all inhabitants were enfranchised. Some were denied the right to representation by the Great Charter of 1618, issued by the Company and under which Yeardley acted. Anyhow, the Poles were disfranchised, which made them so indignant, that they decided to cease working till the unjust degree would be changed.

The dispute assumed such proportions that Yeardley was forced to report it to the Council in London. The Poles won in the end.

"That seems to show that the instincts of liberty were animating force with those Poles and that they revolted at their social condition or the

virtual slavery in which they found themselves contrary, no doubt, to the promises made in inducing them to come to the new colony", writes Martin I. J. Griffin (Catholics in Colonial Virginia).

Enlivened by the spirit of freedom, these sons of the then most enlightened free republic in the world (Poland) tacitly suffered hunger and hardships and quietly endured oppression. Even when others idled they worked honestly for the colony. Never did they become traitors. Never did they quarrel nor plot against authority as did others.

But when they were denied an equal right to participate in the affairs of the colony, they revolted.

This first strike of the Poles in Virginia, not for economical advantages, but for political rights, constitutes, indeed, one of the most beautiful pages in the history of Polish immigrants in the United States. Happening, as it did, over one hundred and fifty years before the Revolution, it may justly be regarded as the first fight and the first victory for the cause of freedom on this continent.

It must be acknowledged that Polish demands for rights met no serious opposition from the Virginia Company which, notwithstanding their strike, was satisfied with the Poles. The best proof of this was the fact that the Company renewed its efforts soon after to bring over a greater number of Polish workers.

MIECISLAUS HAIMAN: — Polish Pioneers of Virginia and Kentucky, PRCU, 1937.



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